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USDA February 5, 1943

This is the FDA

None of us are bystanders at the launching of the Food Distribution Administration. How well the 13,000 employees of the FDA do their job will partly determine what we eat for the duration.

To carry out its difficult assignment, FDA will need the help of many other USDA workers during office hours, and it expects, now, the full cooperation of *all* Department employees as private citizens.

Home work

There are already some simple rules to follow. We can, all of us, help to prevent food waste and we can accept rationing with pride. We can use more foods that are in season to help stretch the supplies of canned and other processed foods needed by our fighting men and Allies. We can plan our meals to take advantage of foods in good supply and help take the pressure off those in short supply.

And geography

We can explain to our neighbors the reasons why we do these things. (It is partly plain geography. For example, while almost everybody knows that Army and Navy needs are enormous, many Americans still don't realize that England is a small island which cannot possibly feed herself; or that Russia, having lost much of her rich farmlands, needs vast quantities of our food to continue her great offensive which is helping turn the tide.)

Recommendations

It is also well to know how far the Department's responsibilities extend. While the actual rationing is handled by the Office of Price Administration through the local boards, Secretary Wickard must make the great and difficult decisions on how much to allocate to our armed forces, civilians, and Allies. A major duty of the FDA is to make recommendations to Secretary Wickard for action on these allocations; and also on programs for the conservation of foods; rationing; economies in distribution of farm and food products; distribution of materials needed for processing foodstuffs; and public-feeding programs, including the school lunch, school milk, and other programs as developed. Most of the programs resulting from these recommendations—other than consumer rationing—will be the responsibility of the FDA.

Even with help from all of us, the job will not be easy. But FDA is prepared to keep the food rolling when the going is tough.

Lessons gained from food-distribution problems in the last war, and the depression periods, have gone into the organization of FDA. Never before has such a comprehensive organization been set up to cover distribution.

Some idea of the thoroughness with which the FDA has been organized, as well as the ramifications of its job, can be gained from the following:

Rank and file

Nucleus of FDA's staff are some 9,500 employees of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, which handled grading and inspection, school lunch and other distribution programs, food buying for lend-lease, territorial programs, Red Cross, and other war needs, consumer information, market news, administration of marketing statutes, and other services. To these have been added about 350 from the food division and other food units of the War Production Board; 100 from the Office of Agricultural War Relations; 300 from the former Sugar Agency; and some 3,000 meat inspectors from the Bureau of Animal Industry.

NEW *Chief Forester Lyle F. Watts, recently an assistant to the Secretary, was a regional forester at Portland, Oreg. The late Chief, F. A. Silcox, died in 1939. Earle H. Clapp had been acting chief.*

Deputy directors

Deputy directors are: C. W. Kitchen, former Associate AMA Administrator; Maj. Ralph W. Olmstead, former Assistant AMA Administrator; J. S. Russell, former Midwest AMA Administrator at Des Moines, Iowa; E. A. Meyer, former assistant chief, War Production Board food division.

Other staff members are: Arthur C. Bartlett, special assistant; Budd Holt, economic adviser; Norman L. Gold, E. O. Mather, S. R. Newell, Otie M. Reed, Jacob Rosenthal, John C. Canning, special assignments.

Commodity branches

Nine commodities branches, under Mr. Kitchen, will work on wartime food problems, including distribution economies, purchase and price support, and regulatory work. Branches and chiefs: *Fruit and vegetable*, W. G. Meal; *fats and oils*, T. I. Daniels; *dairy and poultry*, T. G. Stitts; *grain products*, E. J. Murphy;

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livestock and meats, Harry E. Reed; *special commodities*, H. C. Albin; *sugar*, Joshua Bernhardt; *tobacco*, Charles E. Gage; *cotton and fiber*, Carl E. Robinson. Mr. Daniels was head of the fats and oils section, WPB chemical division; Mr. Bernhardt headed the ACAA Sugar Agency. The other chiefs held similar positions in AMA.

Civilian needs, programs

Three branches will deal with civilian food requirements and programs, under Mr. Russell. *Civilian requirements* will be headed by Dr. Russell M. Wilder, former chairman, Food and Nutrition Board, National Research Council. Dr. Wilder comes on leave from the Mayo Clinic. This branch will cooperate with the Agricultural Research Administration, NRC Food and Nutrition Board, and other agencies, and will serve as a "claimant agency" for civilian food needs.

Civilian programs will administer the school-lunch, school-milk, and other public food programs, establish emergency food reserves for U. S. civilian use, and seek civilian cooperation in wartime food programs. C. F. Kunkel, former chief, AMA distribution branch, is acting chief.

Food conservation will recommend food-conservation programs and seek public participation in them. The chief has not yet been appointed.

Transportation, warehousing

Under Major Olmstead will be three branches, a liaison division, and six management or service divisions.

Transportation and warehousing will handle programs for efficient food transportation, have custody of commodities procured by FDA, administer the Warehouse Act, negotiate with carriers, and initiate transportation of farm products. W. C. Crow, AMA transportation and warehousing chief, will continue in charge.

Compliance will seek to prevent undue speculation, profiteering, and fraud, administer the Commodity Exchange Act, and report on violations of agreements, orders, and regulations. J. M. Mehl, former chief, AMA commodity exchange branch, will be in charge.

Program analysis and appraisal will be under Dr. Frederick V. Waugh , former Assistant AMA Administrator.

Program liaison, under J. P. Hatch, former Assistant to the AMA Administrator, will receive purchase requisitions of lend-lease food, Caribbean Emergency, Red Cross, and other programs, and will handle service relationships with these.

The six management divisions are: *Fiscal*, W. B. Robertson; *organization and procedure*, Harry I. Dunkleberger; *personnel*, F. C. McMillen; *marketing reports*, Marvin M. Sandstrom; *administrative services*, Fred J. Hughes; *budget*, J. L. Hoofnagle.

Food industries branches

Mr. Meyer will direct four branches. Plant conversion, new processes, new containers, distribution of materials, and requests for priorities for materials and equipment in this field will be handled by *facilities*, under J. B. Wyckoff, former Assistant to the AMA Administrator.

Processors will work with the commodity branches in organizing advisory committees of food manufacturers and processors. The chief is to be announced.

Wholesalers and retailers, under Daniel A. West, former OAWR Assistant Director, will handle problems of wholesalers, retailers, and public dining places, and work with advisory committees.

Manpower will develop programs for full use of manpower in the food industries. The chief is to be announced.

Requirements, allocations

Reporting to Mr. Hendrickson, *requirements and allocations control* will recommend allocations of supplies for civilians, armed forces, lend-lease, and other exports. Secretary Wickard will make the allocations, after consulting with the Food Advisory Committee (*USDA*, January 20) and Combined Food Board. The chief of this branch is John M. Cassels.

Three inter-agency committees, with representatives of other Government agencies concerned with food, will also be established, to deal with allocation, civilian nutrition, and procurement.

Regional offices

The seven regional administrators are: Buell F. Maben, New York City, *Northeast* (Maine, N. H., Vt., Mass., R. I., Conn., N. Y., N. J., Pa., Del., D. C., Md., W. Va.); James H. Palmer, Atlanta, *Southern* (Ky., Tenn., Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss.); E. O. Pollock, Chicago, *Great Lakes* (Ill., Ind., Wis., Mich., Ohio); Russell Mather (acting), Des Moines, *Midwest* (N. Dak., S. Dak., Nebr., Kans., Mo., Iowa, Minn.); Leonard R. Trainer (acting), Denver, *Rocky Mountain* (N. Mex., Utah, Colo., Wyo., Mont., Idaho); Merritt A. Clevenger, San Francisco, *Pacific Coast* (Wash., Oreg., Calif., Nev., Ariz., T. H., Alaska); Lester J. Cappleman, Dallas, *Southwest* (Ark., La., Okla., Tex.).

Department people

Tributes to Dr. Carver

When Dr. George Washington Carver, collaborator in the Bureau of Plant Industry and one of the world's great scientists, died at Tuskegee, Ala., last month, the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary of Agriculture sent telegrams to the president of Tuskegee.

Vice President Wallace had known the scientist since he was a child of seven. He recalls how Dr. Carver, then a student at Iowa State College, where Wallace's father was a professor, used to take him by the hand and carry him on field excursions.

Said Vice President Wallace, "I got my first inspiration for growing things from Dr. Carver." The Vice President told the story at Tuskegee in 1936 when he was Secretary of Agriculture. The great scientist, commenting in his characteristic high-pitched voice, said, "Henry certainly was a precocious youngster."

Said Secretary Wickard: "Tuskegee and the Nation suffer an irreparable loss in the passing of Dr. George W. Carver. However, we may take comfort in the fact that his great contribution to the science of agriculture and to scientific research will continue to serve mankind. The entire Department joins me in expressing our deepest sympathy to you, your institution, and the ever-widening circle of friends that the distinguished scientist developed through the years."

In 1935 Mr. Wallace appointed Dr. Carver collaborator (serving without pay) in BPI's division of mycology and disease survey. His contribution to the division was a large collection of fungi now in BPI's herbarium. Many of the fungi play

an important role as connecting links in the division's pathological collection.

Last Department official to visit Dr. Carver was Roy F. Hendrickson, Food Distribution Administrator. He called on the scientist recently and had a chat with him. Hendrickson said on his return to Washington: "One of the vivid memories of the time I spent at Tuskegee is my visit with Dr. Carver and the strong impression he gave me of fine scholarship and scientific integrity. He impressed me as a remarkable man, who despite his great age, had never grown old."

A liberty ship will be named for Dr. Carver.—Sherman Briscoe, *Office of Information.*

Woe unto you, lawyers

According to unofficial reports, the following air-raid instructions were issued in a large office building housing departmental regional workers: The regional personnel of the Solicitor's Office were instructed to assemble in the corridors on the third floor, while various administrative officials on the fourth floor were instructed to go down to the basement in case of a raid.

There was a good deal of speculation on the reason for all this moving around. "I think I've got it," said a junior administrative assistant, "If a bomb hits the legal offices, it will take at least 3 days to come down."

4-H's go to town

This year 4-H Club members plan to take into their clubs and to help train the millions of city boys and girls who will work on farms this summer. If you know such youngsters in your city, they should consult the local county agent or 4-H Club leader, to take advantage of club membership now.

This is one of the plans farm youngsters will discuss during their own Mobilization Week, February 6–14. Spurred by a letter from President Roosevelt, they will pledge themselves to produce more Food for Freedom, to get a million more members by asking all farm boys between 10 and 21 to join them, and to help meet local farm-labor shortages.

There is nothing juvenile about their production last year; 6,000,000 chickens, 250,000 hogs, 100,000 head of dairy cattle, 2,000,000 bushels of vegetables, 12,000,000 jars of home-canned food, $6,000,000 worth of war bonds, and uncounted tons of scrap.

The FPA in action

The Food Production Administration, including some 35,000 employees, has likewise announced its organization and, almost simultaneously, has swung into action on several tremendous production programs. Regional, State, and county offices of FPA line agencies continue unchanged.

Associate Director J. B. Hutson also will be executive officer in general charge under Director Townsend. Associate Director A. G. Black will continue as Governor of the Farm Credit Administration and also will head the Production Loan Branch of FPA, in charge of all loan activities except those of the Farm Security Administration. Deputy Director D. A. Fitzgerald will be in charge of FPA programs and planning.

Agencies

AAA, Fred S. Wallace, chief, will carry out provisions of farm-production programs, administer the Sugar Act, and assist county and State War Boards in carrying out their wartime activities. FSA, C. B. Baldwin, chief, will provide help for farmers, including loans and grants, in securing maximum production, and will aid tenants in acquiring family-sized farms through loans. SCS, H. H. Bennett, chief, will develop and apply soil-conserving measures and thus help farmers to secure maximum production. FCIC, Leroy K. Smith, manager, will administer crop insurance on wheat and cotton.

Branches

Besides the *Production Loan Branch*, under Governor Black, six other branches of FPA have been established to gear together the whole organization: *Production programs*, Sherman E. Johnson, chief, to translate food requirements as prepared by FDA (see p. 2) into requirements for agricultural products; *agricultural labor*, Maj. John O. Walker, chief (see p. 4); *conservation programs*, E. D. White, chief; *price support and loan programs*, J. Joe Reed, chief, to analyze supply and demand situations and determine needed support levels; *production supplies programs*, David Meeker, chief, to determine requirements and steps to get the necessary farm equipment and supplies; *distribution of farm supplies*, L. L. Needler, chief, will cooperate with *production supplies programs*, and will have charge of all rationing of farm supplies. Functions of the office of Special War Board Assistant to the Secretary are transferred to the Director of Food Production.

MR. *Wickard has appointed M. Clifford Townsend, another Indiana farmer, Director of Food Production. He succeeds H. W. Parisius, who resigned January 15. Gov. Townsend has been ACAA Administrator.*

The following vital changes in USDA activities, announced last month, will show how the FPA is already going to bat.

Incentive payments

On January 26, Secretary Wickard announced a $100,000,000 program of incentive payments for farmers, to obtain more of the following: Sweetpotatoes, soybeans, grain sorghums, peanuts, flax, and dried peas. A similar program was announced earlier for dried beans, Irish potatoes, and fresh truck crops.

Many farmers have already signed up for their farm crop goals, following Farm Mobilization Day (*USDA*, December 20). Incentive payments will be made for each acre of production from 90 percent up to 110 percent of the farm goal. Payments are in addition to existing price supports.

The increased national goals and incentive payments, from 90 percent up to 110 percent of the farm goal: Soybeans, 10,500,000 to 12,000,000 acres, $15.00 an acre; peanuts, 5,500,000 acres (no increase), $30.00 an acre; flax, 5,000,000 to 5,500,000 acres, $10.00 an acre; dried peas, 665,000 to 725,000 acres, $15.00 an acre; sweetpotatoes, 757,000 to 1,000,000 acres, $.50 a bushel on the normal yield of acreage planted in approved areas; grain sorghums, 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 acres, $8.00 an acre; Irish potatoes, 3,160,000 to 3,260,000 acres, $.50 a bushel (on acreage planted after Feb. 1) on the normal yield of acreage planted; dry edible beans, 2,800,000 to 3,300,000 acres, $20.00 an acre (also, the support price was upped from $5.35 to $5.60). CCC will make loans on uncleaned beans. More cleaning facilities are being sought. Truck crop payments will average $50.00 an acre on designated crops, including carrots, snap beans, lima beans, beets, tomatoes, cabbage, onions, and green peas for fresh consumption. National goals for these exceed the 1942 acreage.

On 1943 canning crops of tomatoes, peas, sweet corn, and snap beans, the Department will assure satisfactory returns to farmers by purchasing the canned vegetables at prices which will enable the canners to pay the farmers specified minimum prices higher than those paid last year. The Food Distribution Administration will sell them back to canners at a discount, thus protecting the ceiling prices to consumers. The 1943 minimum prices per ton thus guaranteed to farmers, in comparison with the 1942 prices, are (national basis): Tomatoes, $24.25, $19.37; green peas, $81.50, $63.93; sweet corn, $18, $13.50; snap beans, $91, $75.38. (These prices will vary by States.)

To increase milk production, an incentive payment program is now in the works.

The Secretary has given war food and fiber crops first priority on the limited supplies of chemical fertilizers.

Differences between latest 1942 crop-report figures and earlier estimates made it necessary to revise the table of percentages in connection with the 1943 production goals (*USDA*, December 5, 1942).

Our farm labor job

Chairman Paul McNutt of the War Manpower Commission has given the Department the total job of supplying labor for the farms. The Agricultural Labor Branch of FPA will handle it, in cooperation with the U. S. Employment Service. (Major Walker will serve on WMC's Bureau of Placement.) The Department will recruit, place, and transfer workers already engaged in agriculture, and youth, women, and other workers from cities and towns. Foreign workers will continue to be brought in, in accord with WMC policies, where necessary.

Farmers may increase the pay of farm hands getting up to, but not in excess of, $2,400 a year. However, the Secretary may stop wage increases in any area, if necessary, after giving advance notice. Wages for a job cannot be reduced below the highest paid for that job between January 1 and September 15, 1942, without his express approval.

Our job will be made easier by more liberal draft deferments for farm workers. The 16 war units previously announced as a yardstick for local draft boards deciding deferments (*USDA*, November 20, 1942) are scaled down to 8. Sixteen war units per worker, however, remains the national objective for farmers this year.

Tobacco, short-staple cotton, wood products, goats, and some other products were added to the list of "essentials" for draft-deferment purposes. (Note: This does not add them to the list of *war crops* given the top rating in the FPA production campaign for 1943. For example, a farmer raising long-staple cotton and another raising only short staple may fare alike before the draft board. Both are essential crops, but long staple is more urgently needed and would have a higher rating when it comes to payments, priorities, etc.)

Loans through War Boards

Besides all other credit lines (local banks, production credit associations, emergency crop and feed and FSA loans), a new type of loan, to enable farmers "to engage in or increase production of essential commodities," is now available through county War Boards. For this purpose, the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation of Washington, D. C., will shell out more than $200,000,000. Individual loans may be as big as needed to do the job; will be for one agricultural season, but may be renewed under proper circumstances; interest will be 5 percent; collateral will be first liens on the crop.

Each county War Board will name a loan representative who may be a USDA employee stationed in the county, or a farmer. Where War Boards recommend, the FSA type of supervision will be made a condition of the loan, and it will be handled by the FSA supervisor.

Saving the cows

If a farmer wants to sell his dairy cows because he can't get help, FSA supervisors try to find some. If this doesn't work, they try to sell the herd to other farmers (assisting with loans if necessary); and as a last resort, the supervisors will buy the cattle, paying with drafts drawn on the Commodity Credit Corporation, and will handle the sale of the cows to farmers who can care for them. Areas selected for this program will be announced locally by FSA supervisors. Cows, heifers, and heifer calves will be bought, but to prevent speculation no animal can be resold within 6 months without the Government's permission.

Junior League

Almost the last group which USDA workers would normally expect to take an interest in their problems would be the members of the Junior League. Now, however, these young city women have asked for the names of State USDA War Board chairmen. They are reported to be earnestly interested in studying agriculture as an integral part of the Nation's economy. They can also pitch hay.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA February 20, 1943

USDA workers mobilize their ideas

THOUSANDS of employees are making suggestions in answer to Mr. Wickard's request. The following examples now under consideration may or may not be acted on, but there is no question some of them could speed the maximum war effort of the Department.

One county USDA office

Five employees of the Soil Conservation Service, FPA, scattered across the Nation, broke out at once with the same idea: Combine the USDA offices in each county. Three—Sam McIlvanie, assistant conservationist, Ekalaka, Mont., Kenneth Butler, junior conservationist, Lake City, Minn., and Lee M. Cleland, Coshocton, Ohio—would go the whole hog and have just one agency for the farmers in each county to deal with.

Mr. Cleland wants all USDA agencies "combined and placed under one county administrator, all housed in one office building, one telephone serving the entire organization."

While George N. Sparrow, zone technician in Spartanburg, S. C., advises against having one agricultural manager for each county, he calls for a cooperative county office with "a central control desk to route inquiries properly and to explain each agency's part in an over-all program, where the occasion demands it." Stenographic and other personnel might be pooled for cooperative work.

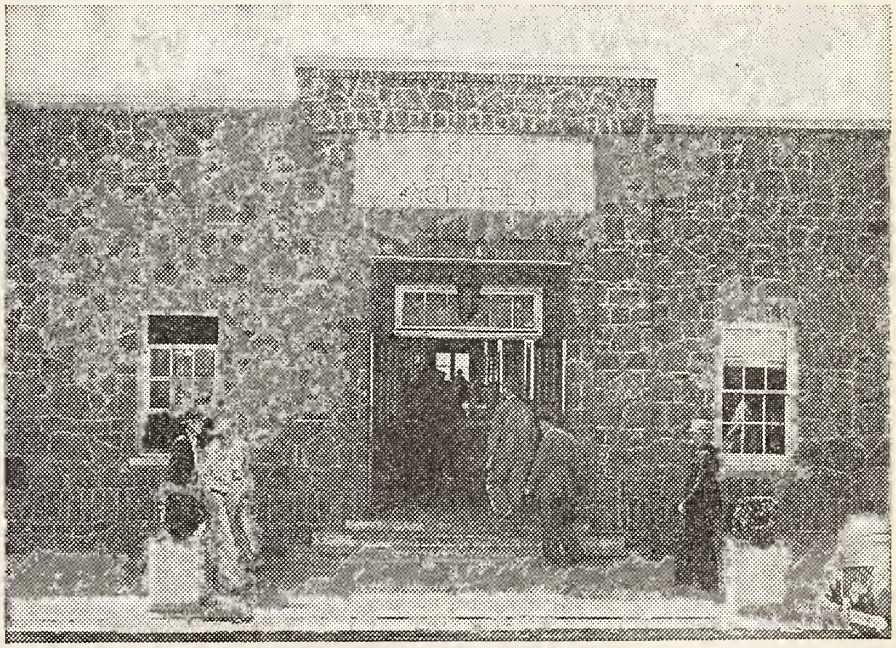
Kenneth Holmes, farm forester at Springfield, Tenn., points out that among other benefits, housing county offices together would allow "a further combination of educational activities."

Ed. comment: The State and County USDA War Boards were set up before Pearl Harbor to bring the agencies closer together And the recent grouping of most of the Department into three main units—FPA, FDA, and ARA—is a further step in this direction. It will take time for the new set-ups to shake down. Meanwhile, it will help to win the war if all employees try to follow the main policies of the entire Department.

For more production

To help farmers meet the 1943 war-production goals, Charles A. Clark, of Moorestown, N. J., associate entomologist of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Agricultural Research Administration, proposes that the interest rate on *existing* Federal Land Bank and Commissioner loans, and also Production Credit Association loan rates, be reduced for the duration; on condition that the borrower use the difference in his payments to buy phosphate and potash fertilizer or lime.

A war food-production bonus for postwar spending is the idea of Maurice Donnelly, from the cooperative hillculture research project of the Soil Conservation Service, FPA, at Riverside, Calif. Mr. Donnelly suggests the USDA, through the War Boards, pay the farmer a bonus divided into two parts: (1) For postwar purchase of tractors, refrigerators, etc.; (2) for postwar employment of a works corps like the late CCC to install capital improvements on his farm. The bonus could be paid in bonds or something similar. He believe his suggestion has "the advantage of being non-inflationary



ONE *place to go. All USDA offices in Troy, county seat of Pike County, Ala., are housed in this modest building, which also includes a curb market, county library, and health offices. The Department's Office of Plant and Operations has blueprints for county offices wishing to plan a postwar agricultural building. It can also help agencies which want to take space together in some existing structure. And even where physical unity is not possible, closer cooperation is.*

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and of dovetailing well with the work programs that this service will be called on to undertake when the war is won."

Less paper shuffling

Miss R. R. Rice, in the office of the Research Administrator, suggests that we waste time opening envelopes to pull out intra-Department memos which already have our names written on them, usually more clearly than on the envelopes. Why use inter-office envelopes for anything except material which is bulky, loose, or confidential? This goes for Beltsville, too, she says.

Katharine H. Allen, of the Food Distribution Administration, wonders why numerous original copies must be typed when identical letters are sent to all regional offices. Wouldn't clear carbons or ditto copies do? (This idea will be adopted.)

Cecelia D. Phillips, SCS, thinks we should have a Departmental file of progress in scientific work, with a brief summary of the correspondence connected with it. Many offices keep records of work only in the correspondence files, and it is often impossible to find information on some particular line of research, due to shifts caused by reorganization. Miss Phillips suggests keeping a research card index in every office. If a bureau is shifted, the records can be transferred to a Departmental file.

Mrs. Helen R. Stoessel, Plant and Operations: That each bureau retain a budget officer but that administrative audit work, with allied paper work, be brought together in one central office under the general supervision of the finance director.

For less moving

Confusion and delay caused by inter-office moving have provoked several suggestions. M. C. Gay, of the Farm Credit Administration, Food Production Administration, proposes that units affected by proposed moves be given more voice in the matter. As one result of the constant moving, he points out, it's getting very difficult to find USDA workers in Washington, where the Department telephone book is hopelessly out of date.

Betty D. Jones, of the Department Library, wonders why miles of copper telephone wire, left fastened on the office floor after each move to trap the unwary foot, shouldn't be sent to the scrap drive. (Note: There's some under the Editor's desk now.)

U. C. Loftin, senior entomologist, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Agricultural Research Administration, suggests that during moves the telephone be removed from the desk and left in place to fasten on the new desk when it comes in (this idea, of course, comes under the province of the telephone company, which may have its reasons).

Reimbursable services

S. P. Wilson, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, ARA, Gulfport, Miss., suggests that Government agencies which perform reimbursable services for each other should settle their accounts promptly by draft and acceptance. Present delays in receiving reimbursement may seriously handicap the work. Mr. Wilson proposes that the creditor agency should bill the Treasury for goods and services on delivery. The Treasury would then credit the agency's account and the debtor agency would pay the Treasury.

This is a good one

A suggestion applicable to the entire Federal service, made by J. M. Locknane, Office of Budget and Finance, was forwarded by Sam Bledsoe, Assistant to the Secretary and Chairman of the Administrative Council, to the *Washington Post* contest for suggestions by Federal employees in Washington. Mr. Locknane was one of the three runners-up, receiving the vote of one judge for first place. He proposes that the Government discontinue the use of "tax exemption" certificates on its own vast purchases and simply pay taxes on what it buys, like anyone else. Uncle Sam does not lose when he pays taxes to himself. There would be considerable saving of time in Federal offices and among merchants who must keep a separate set of records of sales to the Government, in order to prove to the tax collector that such sales were tax free. Legislation would probably be necessary to carry out Mr. Locknane's idea.

Travel headaches

Travel regulations and similar knots of red tape were the subject of several suggestions. J. E. Dickerson, Federal-State marketing inspector at Indianapolis, points out that 3 or 4 months may now be required for payment of travel expense accounts, which used to take only 9 or 10 days to clear. As a result of Mr. Dickerson's suggestion, the Food Production Administration went to work on the problem and now expects to get the average time required for payment down to 15 days from the time the travel expense voucher is received.

Along the same line, H. M. Branch, in the Newark, N. J., office of the Food Distribution Administration, suggests a ready reference booklet on the use and distribution of travel requests, the statements necessary in preparing expense accounts, and other common forms like bills of lading, property reports, vouchers, scrip books, and tax-exemption certificates (see Mr. Locknane's suggestion above). Training courses, Mr. Branch points out, have little time to explain these things. New workers, especially, make mistakes which complicate work in Washington. (Harold F. Stone, of Budget and Finance, advises that his office is compiling a handbook to help Government travelers make out their vouchers.)

The human element

George F. Crown, of the Farm Credit Administration, Food Production Administration, concerned over crowded cafeterias, proposes that lunch hours be staggered by bureaus.

H. C. Robertson, of the Columbia, S. C., office of FDA, believes that undue hardship may be worked by the rule requiring temporary employees to serve an unbroken month before using annual leave.

"Anonymous" is impressed with the fact that many employees leave venetian blinds down—partly or all the way—and turn on the lights. A Plant and Operations circular (No. 36) on saving electric current says if all the office lights were turned out in the Department offices in Washington when the occupants are at lunch, the electrical energy saved would be enough to manufacture 25,000 pounds of aluminum. Mr. A. suggests: "Why not post warnings and have employees at least turn off the heat when they leave at night?" The building superintendent agrees wholeheartedly with this suggestion.

For other departments

W. A. Carrigan, FDA meat inspector, South St. Joseph, Mo., proposes that Army and Navy requirements for meat and meat products be correlated.

James J. Lamb, BAI, meat inspector in the Port of New York, suggests that meats being unloaded from incoming ships would keep better if hung on hooks instead of being piled on the floor.

County Agent R. M. Coman, Hazelhurst, Miss., who read about chicken feathers (*USDA*, November 20, 1942), wonders why cotton wouldn't do. "Unless chicken feathers have properties that we do not know anything of, we would like to suggest to the War Department that in the cotton mattress and comforter program we made comforters of cotton, after first having the cotton put through a regular batting machine and made into 4-pound batts that were about the nicest thing we have ever seen in a comforter."

Ed. comment: By all means, make suggestions outside the work of this Department, if you have an idea which might help to win the war. Our own Department welcomes suggestions, and receives many of them, from "outsiders."

Stick out your neck, please

This is Mr. Wickard's invitation for all employees to use their brains to help win the war. Write down your idea today and send it in. Here is the list of persons designated to receive suggestions (arranged for convenience by the "old" names of Department units). Field employees write to them, too.

FCIC, Leroy K. Smith; *SCS*, H. H. Bennett; *AAA*, Fred S. Wallace; *Sugar Agency*, Joshua Bernhardt; *AMA*, Frederick C. McMillen.

ARA staff offices, P. V. Cardon; *BAI*, A. W. Miller; *BACE*, Henry A. Donovan; *BDI*, J. M. Kemper; *BHE*, Mrs. Lennah Curtiss Zens; *BPI*, M. A. McCall; *Office of Experiment Stations*, Walworth Brown; *Beltsville*, F. R. Ellis.

CCC, Joseph Haspray; *FCA*, W. W. Fetrow; *FSA*, David L. Crawford; *Forest Service*, H. Dean Cochran; *REA*, John W. Asher, Jr.; *BAE*, Jack A. Hamblin; *Extension*, Walter H. Conway; *Library*, Miss Mary G. Lacy; *OAWR*, Jerry Henry; *OFAR*, William H. Rohrman; *Budget and Finance*, W. A. Jump; *Information*, E. R. Waymack; *Personnel*, N. R. Bear; *Plant and Operations*, John S. Lucas; *Land Use Coordination*, Frank J. Dewald, Jr.; *Solicitor's Office*, Linton B. West.

Program notes

In January the Department announced these programs (besides those in February 5 *USDA*): Support prices for olives for oil (CCC and FDA); production this year of 50,000 acres of hempseed to be bought by CCC; price supports for increased production of dried peas (725,000 acres instead of the 665,000 originally called for); freezing of Bermuda and carpet grass seed, CCC to buy it for landing fields, drill grounds, etc.; indemnity payments to manufacturers to assure farmers enough reasonably priced cotton binder twine to harvest grain (FDA); purchase by CCC, at prices stimulating production, of two extra-long-staple varieties of American grown and Puerto Rican Sea Island cotton, from which special war fabrics are made.

Among orders issued by Secretary Wickard in January were: Rice millers to set aside 60 percent of their milled rice, for the armed forces, and Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other Caribbean defense zones, and Hawaii (all big rice-eating territories); to reserve certain low grades of the 1942 crop of some types of dark tobacco for insecticides (producers not to be penalized in price); to require milk handlers to eliminate less-than-quart sizes for home deliveries, etc., charge deposits on bottles, cans, and cases, eliminate milk returns from commercial establishments, load milk only on advance or standing orders, and confine purchases to not more than two handlers unless each delivery is more than 300 quarts; California and Arizona orange handlers to set aside each week quantities of fruit equal to one-fifth of their weekly shipments for processing to supply war needs.

Rubber report

While they can supply only a small fraction of the need, the three kinds of domestic rubber developed by the USDA are promising. Agricultural Research Administrator E. C. Auchter says that Norepol, the rubber substitute from vegetable oils, is now in production by two companies. With less stretch and tensile strength than natural rubber, Norepol is better for some purposes.

About 600 tons of the first natural rubber produced in the United States since Pearl Harbor comes this winter from the Salinas, Calif., factory operated by the Forest Service near its guayule plantations. Next winter's harvest will yield about 21,000 tons, and the schedule calls for about 80,000 tons a year thereafter.

From experimental plantings of Russian dandelion (kok-saghyz) seed flown over last spring from Russia, over 18,000 pounds of roots have now been harvested, to determine the feasibility of producing rubber from this plant in North America. The rubber obtained is of high quality, but further tests are needed on extraction methods.

The 1942 record

Year-end estimates show 1942 output of livestock and livestock products (for sale and home consumption) up 12 percent over 1941, crop production up nearly 14 percent, and total agricultural production up more than 12 percent. Many new records were set in 1942—among them, total crop yields, agricultural production, and income. The most striking record yields per acre were: corn, 35.5 bushels, compared to the previous record of 31.7 in 1906; wheat, 19.8 bushels, compared to 16.9 in 1941; cotton, 275.1 pounds, compared to 269.9 in 1937. Potatoes, dry edible beans, and tame hay also reached new highs in yield.

Death of the stamp plan

The Food Stamp Program will officially die March 1. War industries have hired most of the unemployed. Our food surpluses have turned into shortages. The program probably will not be resumed until war's end. States and counties will care for handicapped and elderly persons who need aid.

Since May 1939, the stamp program has improved the diet of 4,000,000 Americans. With free blue stamps, in addition to the orange ones they bought, they increased their regular food purchases from 50 to 100 percent. The program also helped farmers when farm prices were too low.

Letters to you

Farmers in the fleet

Lt. (Jr. Gr.) R. T. Leigh, formerly in the Louisiana AAA office, now on the USS *Portland*, writes to Bentley Mackay, regional representative, Office of Information, that the men on the *Portland* eagerly read one of Secretary Wickard's speeches in the ship's newspaper at sea:

"You have no idea what a great morale booster it was to our men to have the Secretary assure them that everything back on the farm is going well, that there is food for home use and plenty for the boys away!

"I believe I could write a bell-ringer story about the food situation aboard our ship. All of our men are well fed and consequently stay in excellent health. All of us have had quite an experience, Bentley, and in this war of nerves we must have something in our stomachs to give us the guts to fight!

"The food in the wardroom is excellent. We had turkey on Thanksgiving Day, plus all the trimmings and ice cream. I believe the favorite food of all is ice cream—in fact, it is doing more to win the war than any other food. Of course powdered milk is used, but the ice cream is excellent.

"We get plenty of potatoes, plenty of carrots and peas and other vegetables, and on special occasions they'll serve us thick, juicy steaks. Our Navy is the best fed Navy in the world.

"I have been working harder than at any time in my life, but I'm enjoying everything. Some day I'll have a good story to tell you.

"I am on a great ship and its achievements will be known some day.

"Take care of yourself and write as often as possible. Letters mean a lot to the boys away. Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

"Your pal,
"Bob Leigh."

Do we mean business?

From Bob Oshins, London, to his former chief, Major Olmstead, Food Distribution Administration official:

"I am enjoying my work and living here a great deal. My main function is to serve as a sort of polite gadfly . . . Every once in a while I hit on something that will end up in saving a few thousand tons of shipping and then everyone is happy. Incidentally, the biggest thing in the wind right now is the idea of saving a good deal of ship time by cutting out long hauls from Australia and Argentina and getting a lot of the meat and butter they need over here from you guys. It will all depend on whether or not we can deliver the goods. It may mean rationing at home. If it comes to that, it will be a good chance for the Department and the American people to show whether or not they really mean business in this war . . . After we finish explaining to a people that have been living on less than a pound of meat and a couple of ounces of butter a week for 3 years that the brave Americans just couldn't stand the pain of having their own consumption cut back to the 1939 level, we won't be in much of a position to do any more heckling . . .

Score 48

"Now that I've got that off my chest, I can go on to tell you about my adventures in the Home Guards. Even the beauty of the English countryside begins to pall on you when you spend several hours crawling over it on your belly, as I did last Saturday afternoon. In general, they were teaching us to throw hand grenades the other day. They have a very formal way of throwing them, involving a stiff-arm motion, derived apparently from cricket. All the boys had been doing this and making scores like 12 and 14 out of a possible 50. When my turn came I asked shyly whether they really cared how I threw as long as I hit the target. They said no, but assured me that the rule book made it very clear that it was impossible to throw it any other way. Anyhow, to make a long story short, I wound up and threw the things like a baseball and scored 48."

"I'll show them"

Two former night-club entertainers, who asked the Department recently for "every booklet" on raising chickens, are typical of neighbors that USDA employees throughout the country will want to help this year with common-sense advice on USDA services. He now teaches welding in a Michigan tank plant, and she wants "to raise the biggest, the best, and the smartest victory garden in town . . . Remember I can't fail at this venture. You wouldn't want the town folks to laugh at me, now, would you? They are already saying, 'A former actress couldn't raise sunflowers, let alone chickens and a 5-acre victory garden.' . . . Today I couldn't—but as soon as I hear from you fellows down there in Washington, I'll show them."

Secretary Wickard *calls on every family, city or country, with a sunny, fertile yard, to plant a Victory Garden. Others can help with community gardens. The Department especially recommends green and leafy, and yellow vegetables, and tomatoes. These are rich in vitamins and minerals. A Victory Garden fertilizer (3 percent nitrogen, 8 percent phosphoric acid, 7 percent potash), authorized by the USDA, will be sold through regular dealers.*

Department workers throughout the country can grow Victory Gardens themselves and help their neighbors. Information for town and city victory gardeners is now being broadcast each Monday, from 12:45 to 1, over the Farm and Home Hour.

Don't clean all ashes from your fireplace. Keep a deep bed of ashes, almost to the level of the andirons, and you'll have steady heat from the glowing coals. In the spring, take 'em out and dump 'em on the Victory Garden.

More than 1,300 alumni have finished Forest Service courses in box and crate construction and aircraft-wood inspection, given at the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis. They include officers and civilians from the Army air forces, the Ordnance Department, and the Navy, and manufacturers.

The laboratory's container division is helping to solve shipping problems for war supplies. For example, redesign of a container for machine-gun replacement parts saved more than 50 percent in lumber and shipping space.

Conscientious objectors are working in 17 civilian public-service camps supervised by the Forest Service in Cooperstown, N. Y., Cascade Locks, Oreg., Coleville, Calif., and other places. The men work on fire prevention, road and trail building, and forest improvement, and in case of fire outbreaks serve as first-line fire-fighting crews.

USDA's own manpower shortage

A call from the Secretary

If you are an executive:

Know the draft status of supervisors. Train understudies and upgrade present employees. Deferment now is in terms of war-essential occupation as determined by the War Manpower Commission. Personnel memos will keep you posted.

Cut out anything not essential to winning the war. Consolidate, tighten up. (Sec.'s Memorandum No. 1048 urged that you seek suggestions on this from your staffs.)

R. H. Shields, Solicitor, cut his major divisions from 12 to 6, and field offices from 43 to 12 new regional offices, each of which handles the legal work of all USDA agencies. Formerly, each field office was specialized.

Forest Service has eliminated 138 forms from stock, most of them obsolete, and 12 reports in Washington. . . . At Jackson, Miss., offices of the AAA, AMA, SCS, and FS, previously scattered among some 9 separate buildings, moved into 1. . . . AAA's Washington offices are finding instances where 1 stenographer can serve 2 offices.

Hire more women, members of minority groups, older workers, youth, and handicapped persons for jobs you can't fill by up-grading. Explain why to your supervisors.

The first full-time field woman representative of a Production Credit Association is Mrs. Marie Bennett, of Brownstown, Ill., a former school teacher . . . Forest Service has hired a 9-woman sawmill crew at Turkey Pond, near Concord, N. H., uses women also as radio operators, lookouts, truck drivers, and warehousemen, and is training 16- and 17-year old boys for fire-control work . . . SCS uses women draftsmen at Belts-

We are short-handed and will be for the duration. Some 8,000 USDA workers are in the armed services, while one-third of the rest are men of age subject to call. Here are examples of how you personally can help if you are:

An executive — *An old employee*

A supervisor — *A new employee*

—Claude R. Wickard

ville . . . FDA has opened meat-inspector exams to women.

Through 20 years of Department work, Alfred E. DeGroot advanced from guard to work on rosin color standards in FDA. Last July he and his wife went to Florida on retirement, but in August his friend S. R. Snider wrote that the office was having trouble replacing him. Mr. DeGroot came back. Florida can wait.

Decentralize, as far down the line as possible, decisions on hiring, firing and operations. Sec.'s Memorandum No. 603 (Revised) gives the method. Use it wherever you can.

"If you pass on papers to which you add nothing but your signature, you are a bottleneck," said William R. Van Dersal, SCS, six months ago, when he found himself signing personnel actions after others had done all the checking. Now field offices clear them.

Get the cooperation of your staff in personally training employees.

A 60-minute War Department film, Military Training, is available for circulation through field offices and USDA clubs. It can teach civilian trainers how to teach. (Write Miss Myrtle Brown, Office of Information, USDA, Washington.) . . . The aerial Photo Lab is trying out JIT (Job Instructor Training). A Newark group recently sampled JMT (Job Methods Training). Both were developed by War Manpower Commission. For data on them, white the USDA Office of Personnel.

Make sure your people know the present Department set-up and objectives, and how they tie in.

USDA war movies, distributed through the Office of Information and State War Boards, are fine for educating old and new personnel . . . John R. Garnett, FDA regional personnel office, holds meetings on FDA policies for all Atlanta employees the last hour of work Saturday afternoon . . . In Washington, FDA takes trainees through the Beltsville farm, which is the Department's greatest educational exhibit.

MRS. *Marguerite E. Henley does a man's job, compiling physical survey maps at Beltsville for Soil Conservation Service.*

If you are a supervisor:

Train understudies for draft and other vacancies.

REA women at St. Louis are learning the simpler phases of engineering work in their spare time, to help fill in when engineers are drafted . . . In FDA offices in Washington and the field, as soon as an employee is classified 1–A, an understudy is put in training.

Cut out all non-essentials.

When Forest Service took over the guayule rubber nurseries at Salinas, Calif., a supervisor analyzed how they laid down plank walks, reorganized the job with no extra equipment so that 8 men did the work 80 had done before, and in the same time.

Be sure old and new workers understand their jobs exactly.

Job descriptions are sent to SCS employees, along with notices of any change in their status. New employees are given their job descriptions and are urged to talk them over with supervisors.

To train new workers: (1) Acquaint the new employee with his surroundings, interest him in his job, make him anxious to learn; (2) show him the work, remembering we learn new things slowly; (3) allow him to learn by doing; (4) put him on his own, with a decreasing amount of follow-up, until he masters the work. Ask the USDA Office of Personnel for Suggestions to Supervisors.

Explain to each worker his chance for broadening experience and qualifying for promotion. When you can, give a person more than one kind of work to do. Swap jobs now and then.

Every office, in some degree, still suffers from bureaucratic thinking. If you ran a filling station, and the order came to clean windshields, check tires, and fill batteries for every customer, would you wait to find a windshield specialist, senior tire checker, and a junior assistant battery inspector? . . . George S. Mitchell, Assistant FSA Administrator, arranged for a personnel officer to interview each Cincinnati employee in grade CAF–5 and under. Special training programs were set up for those who asked for them. Supervisors encouraged even skilled workers to learn new lines of work.

Check on working conditions. Cut down colds, other sickness, and accidents. New employees, especially in war centers, may require help in finding decent housing, some recreation, adequate nutrition. Lack of these may lead to breakdowns.

The Department has many useful publications, including a BHE leaflet, When You Eat Out.

If you are an old employee:

Fit yourself to handle another job—or jobs. Broaden your chances for being reclassified. Under Civil Service regulations, you may be assigned to duties other than those specified in your official job description, for as much as one-fourth of your time. This "sideline" work may be your opportunity.

In BAE, many clerk typists have taken shorthand brush-up courses given by Edna Mae Riebow, in charge of the stenographic training unit . . . Girls in the AAA pool who can pass typing, but not shorthand, are given an hour's practice dictation a day by Miss Sara Staley, chief.

Help new employees learn their duties and feel at home quickly. Incidentally, by helping others you will be training yourself for a more responsible position.

Volunteer "sponsors" in the Forest Service help new girls get settled as well as get started at work. They have a mimeographed Guide for Sponsors.

Make sure you understand the present work and set-up of the Department. If in doubt, ask your supervisor.

Old as well as new AAA employees often drop into the fortnightly orientation meetings. A movie on the Department's work is usually shown.

If you have ideas about your own work, get going. If it will help your chief or a co-worker, speak up.

Last spring there was an acute shortage of canvas and nails for FSA mobile labor camps. Mike Mascia, district engineer at Upper Darby, Pa., devised a new type of demountable shelter made of wood sheathing, fastened together with wooden dowels. It was quicker, cheaper, better.

Make sure all your capacities are used. Don't sit waiting for an assignment; neither should you look for "busy work." If not fully employed at your highest capacity, talk it over with your supervisor. If he can't help, see your personnel office.

MISS *Helen Coffman, junior stenographer, told her Food Distribution Administration supervisors that she grew up under the apple tree.*

If you are a new employee:

(in the last 6 months or so):

Whatever your job in the Department, it's a war job.

Howard Gardner, Forest Service lookout in the Siskiyou National Forest, Oreg., spotted the only enemy bomb yet to fall within the United States, helped put out the fire . . . Library messengers step lively after Librarian Shaw explains that Army and Navy action may be waiting on some of the books they handle.

Ask plenty of questions.

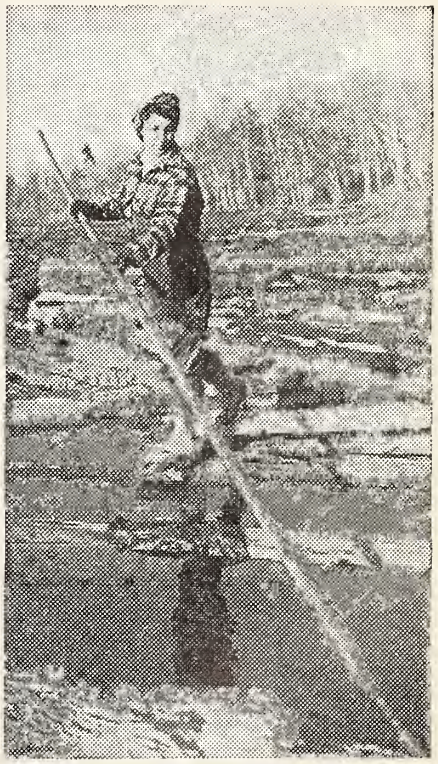
Maxine Orndorff, FDA Personnel, asked her boss the purpose of the section when she first reported for work. Before transcribing notes, she found out from Mary Leaply, secretary to the section chief, the style for correspondence, indention of paragraphs, number and types of carbons, and to whom directed. She looked up requisitions, observed the filing system, secured a dictionary and Style Manual. In a few days Maxine had mastered her job.

Make certain we're using all your abilities. See your supervisor and if he can't help, see your personnel office.

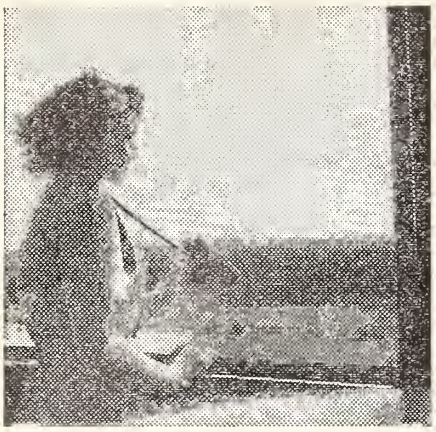
After Helen Coffman, junior stenographer, told her supervisors that she grew up on a farm, knew fruits and vegetables, she was put in the fruit and vegetable branch . . . Elsie Purse said she was raised on a tobacco plantation. She is now in the tobacco branch, where her terminology counts . . Anna Van Huisen, who had worked for a food broker, was shifted to the processed foods division . . . Adele Furman, junior stenographer, reported she could take much faster dictation. She now works for a man who dictates at high speed.

Find out about the Department's work, especially the work done around you and the jobs just above you in grade. Your supervisor or nearest USDA library branch can suggest reading material—write your bureau's Educational Counselor, in care of the Office of Personnel, USDA, Washington.

Arthur Cox, FDA, who came in as assistant clerk, CAF–3, handled routine assignments with ease. He asked permission to attend conferences on operations. One day he asked for more difficult assignments. He is now a junior professional assistant.



MISS *Norma Webber, "slip woman" hired by Forest Service at Turkey Pond, N. H., pushes a log to the haul-up with a pike pole.*



MISS *Mary Noel of Palls, Va., watching from the 100-foot lookout forest tower.*

Sometimes new people bring a fresh slant. If you have one, tell your supervisor or send it to Washington.

Ruth Fischer, on a new job in SCS budget and finance, found a messenger going to the Treasury almost daily for supplemental payroll and travel checks. It was arranged for other USDA offices already sending a messenger to the Treasury to pick up the SCS checks.

Executives, supervisors, old and new employees: If you know other examples of Department people who are getting the job done with fewer hands, please send them to the Office of Personnel, which will make them available to the whole Department.

Department people

In National Forests graze more than 10,000,000 sheep and cattle which will help to feed and clothe our fighting men. Last month Dr. Robert S. Campbell, assistant chief, division of range research, won the 1942 award of the Washington Academy of Sciences for achievement in the biological sciences "because of outstanding leadership in the general field of range research and, in particular, in the field of range utilization standards, where he has pioneered."

Members of the British Purchasing Commission talked to BACE officials about eliminating food spoilage, especially in egg powder. So two BACE bacteriologists, H. H. Hall and L. S. Stuart, are experimenting with food under different weather conditions. In the laboratory, food is left for several days in temperatures which simulate the climates to which it will be sent.

We are now altering our food schedules somewhat. When Messrs. Hall and Stuart discover food won't stand up under the laboratory "climate," it is set aside until better packaging methods are developed.

Harvey L. Westover, alfalfa specialist in the Department for the past 37 years, died last month in Washington. Because of collection by Mr. Westover of alfalfas in Argentina, Chile, Russia, Turkestan, North Africa, and Turkey, the United States today has better varieties.

Feeding the hungry

In making plans for his gigantic job, Gov. Herbert Lehman, Director of Foreign Rehabilitation and Relief, is being helped by the Interdepartmental Committee on Food Relief, of which Howard R. Tolley, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is chairman. Other members include Donald F. Christy and Leslie Wheeler, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, Norman L. Gold, John M. Cassels, and F. V. Waugh, Food Distribution Administration, Harold A. Vogel, BAE, and representatives of State, Commerce, Public Health, and other departments.

Exa Lee Smith, home management supervisor, Gentry County, Mo., sends a poem on the progress of Food for Freedom in that vicinity. Two lines: "The great American sow has seen her duty and done it; and to judge by numerous litters, we'll soon broadcast 'we've won it.'"

Please get these facts across to any who grumble. Tom Stitts, chief of FDA's dairy and poultry branch, says each American soldier eats twice as much butter as the average civilian. The Army last year bought more than 100,000,000 pounds. No butter was shipped to England, but about 17,000,000 pounds went to Russia along with 15 times as much vegetable oils and animal fats. Is butter more important for you than for an American or Russian soldier?

Dr. Ross E. Moore, OFAR Assistant Director in charge of Latin American relations, is a member of the Advisory Committee for 1942–43 on Inter-American Cooperation in Agricultural Education. The committee, of which Philip L. Green is secretary, was recently appointed by President Roosevelt.

When the Red Cross set up a mobile blood-donation unit in REA headquarters in St. Louis recently, over 130 employees—executives, engineers, stenographers, messengers—contributed. Since REA arrived in St. Louis last April, the personnel has donated 523 pints to the local blood bank, some of them making as many as four donations.

REA Wives, an organization of wives of REA men, gave Administrator Harry Slattery a large service flag with 188 stars, representing former personnel now serving in our armed forces. More stars will be added from time to time.

To the memory of Ferdinand A. Silcox and Robert Y. Stuart, both former Chief Foresters of the United States, a white-oak tablet has been dedicated at the Yale Forest School, of which they were graduates, by the living alumni of the former Robin Hood Society for foresters.

The Saturday Evening Post for February 27 carries a story, Acres Are Aces, by Dr. H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, FPA. Dr. Bennett points out the strength of the United Nations in productive croplands for war and peace, and the need for continued soil conservation.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA March 12, 1943

Ten years old

On Monday, March 8, the National Farm Program was 10 years old. Today it is your program, wherever you work. The Triple-A quotas, allotments, conservation practices, and payments have long since marged into National Food for Freedom goals on which depend the lives of every soldier and civilian, and of hungry, hopeful people far away.

For the tenth anniversary, National Farm Day meetings were planned in all counties of the Republic. The town folks were invited, to learn what farmers have done and what help they need in 1943. It would be a fine thing if those USDA workers a bit removed from the soil could attend such meetings, too.

In the years of peace, all USDA workers gradually became partners in a team. Our aim was, and is, a balanced agriculture for the benefit of all farmers and consumers, rich and poor.

First, we had to restore the balance we had lost when the world supplies of some commodities became far bigger than demand. All agencies of the Department joined in a vast effort to adjust production, increase consumption, and reduce waste of human and natural resources. Soil was enriched and restored, stranded farmers were set on their feet, and billions of bushels were sealed in the Ever Normal Granary against the lean years which now have come.

Now we are working to balance the supplies of strategic farm products against the boundless demands of war. All that we have done in the past 10 years has helped us to prepare. But we shall need the help of all Americans, city and country, to win through this year. We also need their understanding. Some seem to think all farm products of equal war importance, although they would not make the same claim for a convertible coupé and a tank, both products of Detroit.

After the war, the task will still be to maintain a balanced agriculture. Perhaps the first post-war job will be to help keep a balance between the needs of starving nations abroad and of our own people at home.

Other problems will surely come. But the essential tools, designed by Congress 10 years ago, polished and reshaped in the years between, are still good. To understand the main outlines of our National Farm Program is necessary for any Department employee who wants to give the maximum public service. (Good reading: The annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture for 1942.)

CROP CORPS

As THE War Department went ahead with its plans to raise an Army of 7,500,000 men by the end of 1943, the Department of Agriculture moved fast to raise another Army—a United States Crop Corps of 3,500,000 recruits to supply farmers with the labor they need to achieve their 1943 food and fiber goals.

Along with plans for the Crop Corps, the Department reported progress in its efforts to obtain occupational deferment for draft-age farmers and farm workers. More than 350,000 farmers and workers had been classified 2–C or 3–C under new Selective Service regulations by the end of January.

Units of the Crop Corps

Our overalled troops will have an official insignia (see cut), and will earn, besides wages, a certificate of honorable service on the Food for Freedom front. Included in the USCC will be 500,000 to 650,000 nonfarm youth, who will form a Victory Farm Volunteers branch. The High School Victory Crops, organized in high schools of the Nation, will assist in recruiting and training the Victory Farm Volunteers. 4–H Clubs will help, too. Another branch of the Crop Corps will be a Women's Land Army, made up of women who are available for regular farm work.

Another development on the burning national issue of farm labor was President Roosevelt's announcement that soldiers could be released from camps this year in lots of 100 to 400 to do harvest work for a day or two at a time, if the agricultural manpower shortage results in a real crisis in a camp area. Also, Senator Bankhead of Alabama introduced a bill, which if passed would furlough bona fide farm workers from the Army through the end of 1943.

Agricultural Labor Administration

The Agricultural Labor Administration replaces the agricultural labor branch under Maj. John O. Walker, previously set up in the Food Production Administration (*USDA*, February 5). Wayne H. Darrow, former AAA information chief, more recently associate director of Department Information, heads the new ALA and reports direct to Mr. Wickard. His assistants are Fred Morrell, Mrs. Julien Friant, and William L. Teutsch. Mr. Darrow will speed, direct, and integrate work of USDA agencies in the farm labor program. We must supply the year-round workers needed on livestock, dairy, and diversified farms, seasonal workers for the crop season or the summer, as well as emergency harvest hands from the villages, cities, and towns. In canning-crop areas, a drive has already started to pledge enough labor for harvest and canning.

How agencies cooperate

Outside strictly agricultural areas, United States Employment Service offices and local defense councils will handle recruiting. In the farming districts, Extension will recruit and place. Farm Security will handle recruiting and moving seasonal workers who must be brought into a county from the outside.

As part of the 1943 farm mobilization, the AAA committeemen are now asking farmers how many work-

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ers they have on hand and how many more they need. Where there is enough labor on farms, plus local Crop Corps recruits, the War Board in that county will need only to follow up the recruitment to see that workers are placed as needed. If there is a shortage of local labor, the county can call on the Department for outside help.

FSA expects to transport about 275,000 seasonal workers, mostly United States citizens. The rest will be Mexicans and perhaps other foreign workers. Japanese evacuees, prisoners of war, and conscientious objectors also will be employed. For year-round workers, FSA will draw hands from less productive lands to work on dairy and livestock farms, and will provide quick training at State agricultural colleges and elsewhere for those who need it (*USDA* December 20, 1942). The program calls for moving 50,000 such workers from the poor land to the good. Some will be placed as renters.

FSA, which now operates 95 farm labor supply centers for housing seasonal workers, will operate 250 additional centers if Congress provides funds which the President has requested for the 1943 crop year. These funds would also be used to transport both seasonal and year-round workers and to enable Extension agents to hire help in recruiting and placing local labor (the same job Extension agents handled successfully in the first World War).

Good for other counties

Very little good land will lie fallow this year in Monroe County, Wis. Last fall John W. Tibbitts, FSA county supervisor, watched with concern rich farms put up for auction, because the owners could not find food tenants. In his files, he found about 25 FSA borrowers who, although good farmers, lacked enough good land. After getting their consent, Supervisor Tibbitts ran weekly stories in the Monroe County Democrat about each, describing the family's equipment and ability, but using no names. In each story he stated that he would be glad to discuss this family with anyone who had a farm for rent.

After each article, owners who wanted dependable tenants called at his office at the courthouse. Tibbitts put them in touch with families on his list who could best meet the requirements.

Program notes

Civilian curtailments

In recent weeks Secretary Wickard issued orders to federally inspected packers to set aside half their weekly lard production for purchase by FDA; to the cheese plants to reserve half their monthly production of Cheddar (American) for war purposes; limited the amount of tea and spices for delivery to civilian consumers; reduced milk solids in ice cream, and shipments of rice from millers or other "first owners" to markets for civilian consumption; reserved 25 percent of peanut oil production for war purposes; continued the ban on whipping cream; reserved three major kinds of California grapes for raisins and ordered packers to set aside for Government purchase their whole supply of raisins, dried apples, apricots, peaches, pears, and prunes.

More evaporated milk, however, was released from FDA stocks to manufacturers for civilian consumption. The program for sale of FDA-owned stocks of roller process dried skim milk is ended. Canned milk is not rationed now, although it may be later.

Rationing

Consumer rationing under the point system, of canned, bottled, dried, and frozen fruits, vegetables, juices, and soups, began on March 1. Sales of canned meats and fish were halted February 17 by OPA. Meat rationing is to start about April 1.

Mr. Wickard asked Secretary of the Interior Ickes to be responsible for catching the fish (the Fish and Wildlife Service is in that Department) but said the FDA will continue in charge of distributing them.

Jams, jellies, preserves, fruit butters, pickles, and canned relishes are not now in the consumer rationing list.

An Inter-Agency Food Procurement Committee, composed of representatives of the chief Government agencies buying food for war purposes, includes Roy F. Hendrickson, Food Distribution Director, chairman; Maj. Ralph W. Olmstead, FDA, vice chairman; Otie M. Reed, FDA; and J. E. Thigpen, CCC. Other agencies are War, Navy, Marine, Veterans' Administration, WPB, BEW, OPA.

War crop advances

Secretary Wickard last month announced a program of special "war crop advances," to encourage production and to insure against loss. The program will be carried on through the county war boards. Farmers who make special efforts to grow vital war crops, and take risks in producing crops they usually don't grow, will sign a note limiting their obligations to the value of the crop produced. (Loans will be repaid when the crops or livestock are sold.)

The war crop advances may be made for soybeans for beans, flax and hemp for seed or fiber, peanuts to be harvested and picked, potatoes (if farm goal is 3 acres or more), sweetpotatoes (on farms with goals determined), American - Egyptian cotton, dry beans, dry peas (except wrinkled varieties), castor beans, tomatoes, snap beans, lima beans, peas, carrots for processing or sale fresh, and cabbage, sweet corn, and table beets for processing.

Price supports announced: For increased production of Irish potatoes (FDA and CCC) at a level equal to 92 percent of parity; to support price of millfeeds to flour millers at $1.50 a ton below OPA ceilings; to assure sugar-beet growers an increase of $1.50 a ton over price for 1942 beets of standard quality (CCC); edible and oil peanuts to have same support price, not less than 85 percent of present parity; for minimum egg prices under southern marketing program.

Other programs: Three private agencies authorized by FDA to sell excess farmers' stock peanuts to growers needing seed; purchase and installation by FDA of 3 cotton presses for baling wool, at Denver, Colo., Billings, Mont., Portland, Oreg.; and change in the school lunch program whereby food supplies are purchased from local merchants and farmers by sponsoring organizations who are reimbursed by FDA.

Under revised WPB regulations, thousands of livestock, dairy, and poultry raisers can now get electric service.

State War Boards were instructed by the Secretary to approve changes in the distribution quotas for rationed farm equipment. Rationing

in counties will continue to be handled by the farm-machinery rationing committees set up last year.

Conditions have been announced under which cottonseed meal or cake may be used in the manufacture of mixed fertilizer for sale.

Mr. Wickard urges farmers to plant as much of their 1943 cotton allotments as possible, after meeting war crop goals. Cotton is second in importance only to the specified war crops on southern farms.

Foresters help farmers

The Forest Service, with State foresters and Extension people, has a program to help the farmers whose woodlots must supply part of the 1 billion increase in board feet needed this year over last. Farm foresters are employed where heavy cutting is taking place, to assist the farmer in determining what he has to sell and to instruct him in how to obtain a fair value. Only the ripe trees and those which are crowding other trees, or are otherwise undesirable, are marked for cutting, leaving the immature and thrifty for future crops.

A record of prices will be made available to farmers outside the critical areas not having the benefit of a farm forester's services. The program also helps channel essential wood products where most needed. To date 24 States are cooperating. Fifty-five areas so far have foresters on this job.

Wheat quotas suspended

Secretary Wickard on February 23 suspended the wheat marketing quotas for the remainder of 1942–43 and for 1943–44. This releases for feed and food wheat stored because of the quotas. Farmers who this year meet 90 percent of their war crop goals are eligible for AAA wheat loans and payments, even though they exceed their allotments.

Bureaus change initials

The Bureau of Plant Industry is now called the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. The new name of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering is Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry. Research on agricultural engineering, chemical weed eradication, and industrial contaminants (toxic to plant life) has been transferred from BACE to BPISAE.

Dr. Louise Stanley, chief, Bureau of Home Economics, has been detailed as special assistant to Research Administrator E. C. Anchter. BHE and the BACE division of protein and nutrition research are combined in a new Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, Dr. Henry C. Sherman, chief. Dr. Sherman, an outstanding nutrition expert, was Mitchill professor of chemistry at Columbia University.

Department people

Giddap, mule

Farmers are getting recognition in a popular war song by Leonard Ware. You may have heard it on the radio by now:

Giddap, mule—we're not through,
There's a lot of planting we'll have to do,
So haw to the left and gee to the right.
We've got to farm to win this fight.
Giddap, mule—we're not through.
We need enough food for the Allies, too . . .
Your ears are shaped just like a V,
V, V, for victory,
Let's work together, you and me,
And plant this crop for the boys over sea . . .[1]

Dig for dear life

Starting about March 8, the first families of radio—Fibber McGee and Molly and the rest—and those equally noted Americans of the comic strips began to talk about plans for their Victory Gardens. Next, the flesh-and-blood Americans who follow their doings will reach for the seed catalogues. The rush is on to get 18,000,000 Victory Gardens, 3,000,000 more than last year. Our Department, the Office of War Information, and other agencies are represented on a Federal Victory Garden committee of which H. W. Hochbaum, Extension Service, is chairman.

The Victory Garden jokes had better be confined to radio and funnies. This year we need every backyard cabbage we can grow. Corporations are arranging Victory Gardens for their employees. U. S. Steel, for example, will lease and plow land for 75,000 family-sized plots around Pittsburgh. How about the 80,000 USDA employees, including the "white collars" in city offices?

[1] Advanced Music Publishing Corp.

Tell the neighbors this

Besides the Victory Garden leaflet, now in its second annual edition, the Department is publishing a Victory Garden Leader's Handbook. USDA Clubs and other groups of employees planning to help in their local garden campaigns may obtain copies from the Department Office of Information. Local civilian defense organizations also will be sources of garden aid and encouragement, and Department people should give them every possible help. The best standby remains the county agent. Here is the time for considerable numbers of USDA workers who have never been inside a county agent's office to visit one. (We have county agents even in big cities like Los Angeles, Miami, and Louisville.)

Harvesting a bumper crop of figures, Agricultural Statistics, 1942, came from the press February 12, somewhat later than usual, with 840 pages, larger and more complete than any previous issue. Ask the information office of your bureau for a copy.

Harry C. Trelogan is acting chief of the newly created order administration division of the FDA dairy and poultry branch. Dr. Trelogan was until recently in the Office of Agricultural War Relations.

USDA workers in other cities may soon hear Office of Personnel men answer the questions employees most often ask, as they did recently for more than a thousand members of the New York City USDA Club.

John W. Tibbitts *had an idea, acted on it*

SEVENTY-FIVE county agents were given awards for distinguished service at the annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Chicago last December. Awards decided by a committee of the association went to:

From *Arkansas*, C. F. Niven, P. R. Corley; *Colorado*, A. A. Goodman, P. B. Miles; *Georgia*, E. P. McGee, E. K. Davis, H. G. Wiley, Byron Dyer; *Idaho*, W. W. Palmer; *Illinois*, J. G. McCall, Henry C. Wheeler, Edward H. Walworth; *Indiana*, Warren O'Hara, Lyman M. Butler, W. G. Smith; *Iowa*, Paul B. Barger, Harold M. Nichols, Paul A. Johnson, Harley Walker; *Kansas*, E. L. McIntosh, Donald W. Ingle, Robert L. Rawlins; *Kentucky*, Stuart Brabant, John C. Brown, John W. Holland; *Michigan*, Carl H. Hemstreet, Harry Lurkin; *Minnesota*, Harold C. Pederson, George W. Chambers, Ernest G. Roth; *Missouri*, R. Q. Brown, John Rush, Harold Canfield; *Nebraska*, E. C. Nelson, R. A. Stewart; *Nevada*, John H. Wittwer; *Maine*, R. C. Wentworth; *Connecticut*, William L. Harris; *Massachusetts*, Bertram Tomlinson; *New Hampshire*, Daniel A. O'Brien; *Vermont*, Ralph C. McWilliams; *New Jersey*, W. Raymond Stone, Orley G. Bowen, A. Howard Saxe; *Ohio*, W. H. Ford, Stanley Porter; *Oklahoma*, A. R. Barlington, J. B. Hurst, M. G. Tucker; *Puerto Rico*, Teodoro Soto; *South Carolina*, S. W. Epps, T. A. Bowen; *South Dakota*, Al O'Connell; *Utah*, R. L. Wrigley; *Wisconsin*, C. O. Ebling, Howard Lathrope, J. F. Thomas; *Wyoming*, Dan S. Ingraham; *Tennessee*, Nate S. Martin, Ollie U. McKnight, Charles O. Woody, William C. Mitchell, Leonard J Kerr, Thomas R. Wingo; *Texas*, Grover C. King, Jake Tarter, B. J. Baskin, G. R. McNiel, M. C. Counts, Jack D. Hudson, Richard E. Homann, C. W. Lehmberg, Dor W. Brown, W. E. A. Meinscher, William L. Wilkinson.

Editorial comment: Couldn't similar awards be worked out for soil conservationists, foresters, FSA supervisors, inspectors and graders, AAA chairmen, and other Department workers?

Index to Volume I

An index to Volume I of *USDA* is available from the Editor, *USDA* Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, to those who file the publication for reference.

Bargain building

How a neighborhood group of 11 families in Bureau County, Ill., turned $143 and 5 days of labor into $3,300 worth of farm buildings is told by Asaph C. Hammond, FSA county supervisor. Each of the families needed about $300 worth of farm buildings—brooder houses, hog houses, hay racks, and so on—to take care of expanding production. So they bought a large house and barn that had to be moved from an ordnance-plant site. Men and women donned overalls and tore down the buildings in five days. Each family put up the buildings they needed with the lumber they divided, at a cost of only $13 each. The idea seemed so good that other of their county neighbors, also in the FSA group, bought up buildings and followed their example.

MOST famous scenes in For Whom the Bell Tolls, Hemingway novel being filmed in the Stanislaus National Forest of California, center around the bridge which the Republican guerrillas blow up. When a fine 105-foot suspension bridge of the Forest Service gets blown up in the movie, don't worry about destruction of Government property. The bridge will continue to serve forest users for years to come.

FOREST SUPERVISOR D. N. Rogers says Little Last Chance Road, under construction in the Plumas National Forest, Calif., is the "stand in" for a movie called "Alaska Highway." The FS is building the road to reach 150 million board feet of timber for war needs, but Hollywood liked the heavy construction machinery and rough country.

PECTINUM, a specially prepared pectin now advocated as a substitute for blood or blood plasma in transfusion for treating shock, is a development of the research department of the California Fruit Growers Exchange, one of the many co-ops financed by the Farm Credit Administration (Food Production Administration). This particular pectin is also used to treat dysentery, burns, and wounds.

Two other products with wartime significance discovered by this co-op are pectate pulp, which is being tried out as a coating for paper containers for cleaning solvents or other oily liquids, and pectin, a substitute for agar, that jelling substance from Japan which is so important for bacteriological, dental, and pharmaceutical uses that the Government has frozen existing supplies.

THERE are things much more important than prices to the American farmer, reported District Extension Agent A. B. Harmon.

At Lawrenceburg, Tenn., a soldier home on furlough stood at attention on the platform at a farmer's meeting while the War Board chairman read the county goals, then asked the meeting, "Do you want to raise food for Lawrence County's 1,500 men enlisted in our armed forces as represented by this boy today?" Up spoke a farmer with a son in service: "If it's the difference between looking out for myself and our 1,500 boys, then I say it's the boys." The crowd cheered.

Soldiers may visit other farmers' meetings to tell about the importance of food in the Army. Following the successful visit of Army speakers to Farm Day Mobilization meetings in 10 States last January, it has been arranged for State War Board chairmen to ask the Quartermaster Corps for soldiers to be detailed to speak at other meetings.

Correction

The Sugar Act of 1937 is not administered by the AAA, as stated in *USDA*, February 5. The sugar branch of the Food Distribution Administration (which has about 30 employees) will administer the Act, in cooperation with the AAA. State and county AAA committees will continue to handle the field payment program.

USDA

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Simplify farm work to win

STILL in the pilot stage, it is too soon to estimate results from the Department farm-work simplification studies which are part of the Department's whole farm labor job. The Department has as yet no literature on the subject for distribution, beyond mimeographed sheets suggesting a few applications of the idea in agriculture. But when Dan Braum, Division of Training, inclosed these sheets with a recent personal letter to a Kansas farmer, he received an interesting answer. The letter indicated that perhaps every farmer is his own best production engineer and that what is most needed is to stimulate thinking along these lines—quickly. This is the farmer's letter, in part:

JANUARY 24, 1943.

DEAR DAN:

"Work simplification." Since your letter, everything I do or think is in those terms. I have been looking for just that phrase for several years and the nearest I could come to it was "streamlined," but that is not a good term for farming. Now I know what it is I'm trying to get at and I'm excited to know you are into the research of it and that it will actually be given to us in a usable manner . . .

We are so busy just doing our work, we fail to stand back and watch ourselves make unnecessary labor. Most of us need a little thought stimulation and since your letter I have noted many ways of simpler movement. They are just simple ideas but previously lacked "inoculation." For example, I have kept the chicken feed in barrels in back of the chicken house so they would be out of sight. Jimmie Lou had to carry the feed around in the mud to the front door; now I have moved them right out in front of the door and she is pleased how much it saves her. I used to mix the feed in the barn, sack it, and carry it over to the chicken house and dump it. Now I'll have these four barrels on a sled and pull them from the barn with the tractor. I can shovel right from the bin to the barrels.

I have 12 stanchions which are now closed with 1 motion instead of 12. I will open the doors for exit by pulling a rope which will save exactly 300 feet of steps a day while choring.

I am now building a hay feeder on wheels. Instead of taking my rack and loading the hay and hauling it to the feeder, I'll take the feeder to the hay and have just one handling; and also can easily change its location to suit the weather.

I am anxious to see what you can offer on milking machines. I can milk the cows in 3 minutes, but it takes 5 minutes to complete the job, two for attaching and detaching and dumping or dipping in chlorine; that is, 12 cows in 60 minutes . . . Farm mobilization is going to cut in on my time next week and if it weren't a war effort, I'd buck.

Sincerely yours,

MERLE R. LATHROP.

Mr. Lathrop has since written a follow-up letter:

Don't forget the farmer's wife in your research . . . I am reminded how Jimmie Lou used to carry the fuel from the barrel to the stove tank. Now we have the barrel attached to the outside of the brooder house with a pipe direct to the stove. When the tank man fills the barrel, that is the last time it is handled . . . Oh yes, I'm working on a grain blower to speed up and ease up hauling from combine to bin.

Some other examples

There are other examples. Mr. Ed Miller, a farmer of Frankfort, Ind., last year produced the following with the sole labor of himself and, for 7 months, one 18-year-old boy: 450 head of hogs on clean ground, 160 lambs, over 1,400 pounds of wool and 10,000 bushels of corn, enough oats and hay to feed his stock, and some wheat, mostly for straw. Pictures of this remarkable farmer will be included in the first farm-work simplification film released through Purdue University.

Last month Chris Henderson, Chief of the Division of Training, Office of Personnel, went west to help install a training program for workers in the guayule-rubber project at Salinas, Calif., where time is of the essence. Later County Agent Richardson, of Takoma, Wash., took him to a meeting of fruit growers at Puyallup. The growers, concerned over getting pickers this year, feared that green pickers would squeeze the berries in their hands. Mr. Henderson had two quick suggestions to make: Studies, he pointed out, could easily determine just how many berries a picker could hold without bruising, and this could be taught the greenest hand. Second, he suggested that holders for the berry boxes (already

MR. AND MRS. *Merle Lathrop of Kansas were inspired by a letter.*

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in use in strawberry fields back east) might be devised to let the pickers have both hands free.

Picking cotton

Before a subcommittee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, Gregory Silvermaster, farm-labor expert, and Richard Sasuly (now in the Army) testified last December. Mr. Sasuly reported on a field study he had made during cotton-picking season in New Mexico.

"I should point out that this was not a very large-scale or ambitious project. It did not involve a very big crew. In fact, it involved a crew of only one. It did not involve any equipment other than old clothes and pencil and paper, and instead of micro-motion film analysis, which would have been helpful, it was only necessary to keep one's glasses clean and look . . . " After a week in which he picked cotton himself and watched the others, "it became obvious that there were several things that could be done to simplify the job of cotton picking." For instance, while a cotton picker would declare, "Sure, I use both hands equally," actually Mr. Sasuly found that in many cases "the left hand just went along for company. When their attention was called to this it was possible almost immediately to introduce a steady rhythm, with equal use of the left and right hands." This and other improvements, he found, soon made possible increases in production of from 20 to 40 percent. Later he observed the motions of a Spanish-American who was picking twice as much as the average. He was already using exactly the methods of Mr. Sasuly had developed, and his two sons, 11 and 13, were each doing at least as much as the average adult picker.

Is it too late?

Is it too late for work simplification to help materially in solving this year's food crisis? Opinion on this subject is divided. The President has included a request for $128,000 to extend the studies in his request to Congress for $65,000,000 for carrying out the Department's farm-labor program (March 12, 1943). Suggestions on simplifying farm work will be made available as fast as they come in. But regardless of the amount of formal assistance available, USDA workers can continue to help farmers think along these lines and circulate the quickest, easiest ways of doing chores which must be done this year with fewer, greener hands.

WAYNE H. DARROW, *Director of the Agricultural Labor Administration, now directs all phases of the Department's farm labor job.*

Studies have gone forward at Purdue and at the land-grant colleges in Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado, and New York. Dr. E. C. Young, Dean of the Graduate School at Purdue, is in charge. Dr. Marvin E. Mundell, a time-motion engineer, heads the Purdue laboratory. Inquiries should be addressed to Purdue and the other land-grant colleges cooperating, or to Mr. Braum.

New war movies

New USDA war movies may be obtained for showing to groups on request to the State War Board or to the Office of Information, Washington. Among current releases are Alaska's Forest Arsenal, Hidden Weapons, The Farmer's Wife, and Teamwork, all of general interest. Henry Browne, Farmer, is now having public showings in Negro theaters. Some white theaters in the South have asked for it, too. Farm Battle Lines is being released in cotton and peanut States, Hemp for Victory in the six hemp States. The State War Boards also have available OWI films of general interest, including Salvage, the Price of Victory (with Vice President Wallace, former Secretary of Agriculture), Listen to Britain, and Divide and Conquer.

Department people

MAJ. John O. Walker, chief of the former agricultural labor branch, FPA, goes to the Budget Bureau to make a special study on Government organization.

HORACE J. ANDREWS is new regional forester in charge of Forest Service work in the North Pacific Region, succeeding Lyle F. Watts, who became FS chief January 8.

Civilian hero

The Department these days has its heroes, in and out of uniform. Louis H. David, a former Forest Service guard on the Sierra National Forest, has been awarded the American Forest Fire Medal for heroism at the Cow Creek fire on August 20, 1941. David took his crew to safety during a sudden change of wind and then saved the lives of two exhausted men who had been caught by the fire and overcome by smoke. This award by the American Forest Fire Foundation was the only one made for 1942.

J. JOE REED is appointed assistant to FPA Director Townsend for War Board Services.

BEPQ is gearing its field offices to wartime. The Hoboken, N. J., station of the division of control investigations is being closed because of greatly reduced imports of plants into the port of New York. The Sunset, La., station of the same division also is shutting up; studies made there on sweetpotato-weevil control are finished. A new substation is being established at Burgaw, N. C., to combat the white-fringed beetle. Headquarters of Japanese beetle control is moving from Bloomfield to Orange, N. J. The office for control of Dutch elm disease is going from Allentown to Bethlehem, Pa.

THIS year, our fighting forces and our Allies will get about 25 percent of total farm production. This 25 percent will include at least the following: one-fourth of the meat, one-third of the eggs and lard, and one-half of the canned vegetable production.—Secretary Wickard.

Committee of 80,000

FRANKLY, there wasn't so much the USDA worker, who reports to work on the tenth floor of the Chicago Federal Building, at a forest lookout tower in Oregon, or a New Orleans laboratory, could do for the farm mobilization campaign. Finding out the plans, resources, and assistance needed by 6 million farms and making detailed plans to meet those needs has strained the energies of State and County War Boards to the utmost during this cold winter of war. The rest of us contributed indirectly through our regular work and, we hope, through moral support and understanding.

What Uncle Sam expects of the farmer, his family, and hired men:

(1) To plan carefully to meet goals.
(2) To pool labor, machinery, trucks, rides to town.
(3) To stay on the farm if an essential worker.
(4) To take best care of machinery, livestock.
(5) To produce essential commodities to the limit, for need rather than profit.
(6) To abide by necessities of rationing, price control.
(7) To raise enough food for farm family.
(8) To adjust operations to unavoidable marketing difficulties.

What Uncle Sam expects of town and city folks:

(1) To help farmers get in their crops where possible.
(2) To grow what they can in the backyard, in community gardens.
(3) To learn how to buy, cook for good nutrition.
(4) To eliminate food waste.
(5) To refrain from hoarding.
(6) To use ration coupons wisely, according to supplies.
(7) To report rationing and price violations to the local price ration board.
(8) To use least possible tires in going shopping (sharing trips, planning ahead).

These are *our* campaigns

Now the paper work is almost done. But American agriculture cannot provide food to win the war without two other great campaigns, in which *every single USDA worker, regardless of rank or station*, is expected to participate personally.

The farm-labor campaign and the Victory Garden campaign are both essential parts of the whole Department war job of providing Food for Freedom. USDA workers can contribute in three ways: First, by their regular office work, which is itself a war job; second, by personally working on farms during vacations, and by gardening; and third, by helping to rally their neighbors for these purposes.

Suppose we constitute ourselves a committee of 80,000 to get these campaigns rolling in the right direction. After all, what other group of civilians understands the need as thoroughly as we?

Whether we take part in these campaigns individually or in groups such as USDA Clubs, the first thing is to understand the official set-up and tell others about it. There is an enormous educational job and mighty little time to do it, if we are to get a Crop Corps of 3,500,000 and 18,000,000 Victory Gardens this summer.

Who can work on farms?

Any ablebodied man, woman, or child can do *some* kinds of farm work on Sundays or vacations. Outside the farming areas, see the local United States Employment Service office. In the farming districts, ask the county agents. Last summer, many examples were reported of USDA workers pitching in to help on farms near Washington and throughout the field. This summer it should be a universal practice.

In some cities, advance training classes are now being held at high schools, and, under auspices of the American Women's Voluntary Services and other groups, for those who plan to do such summer or vacation work. Don't be discouraged by those who say that green hands are worse than useless. The farmers will be the judges of that.

Who can garden?

If one difficulty in the labor campaign is the white-collar worker's feeling that he is all thumbs on a farm, overconfidence may be one of our worst obstacles in the garden drive. City people (the editor writes from experience) have a wonderful talent for planting the wrong things in the wrong places at the wrong time and then giving up.

Ordinarily it is good clean fun if your neighbor plants turnips in midsummer or digs up his shady lawn and waits for developments, but not in 1943.

Nor let those USDA workers with "farm background" sniff at the idea of city gardens. They *can* help win the war. According to census figures, in a recent year 4,800,00 farm home gardens produced as much as all the commercial truck growers. This year we are aiming for a garden on every farm and, in addition, for *twice as many* in towns and cities. While the backyard gardener can produce only a fraction as much as the farmer's wife, their total production can be just the margin needed for victory on this sector.

Repeating the obvious

Planting times vary, of course, with regions (one reason why the Department urges beginners to consult their county agents and State agricultural colleges). But everywhere, Secretary Wickard has warned repeatedly, the soil must be fertile, the site blessed with sunlight at least 5 hours a day, and free from competition with tree roots. Work fertilizers—and lime if the soil is sour—into the ground. Choose the green leafy vegetables like turnip greens, collards, kale, and spinach; plant plenty of tomatoes, cabbage, and beans; and some of the yellow vegetables—carrots, sweetpotatoes, yellow squash. Root vegetables are fine, but will not

do well in heavy clay. Sweet corn is good but takes a lot of room. Simple facts like these are news to most folks planting their first gardens. We can help by repeating the obvious.

And the garden, of course, should be planted for a steady supply through the summer and fall and with an eye to canning and drying the surplus. Some new pressure cookers may be available this summer, but most of those who will can at home for the first time will have to use other methods. Tomatoes may safely be canned without a cooker, and beans, corn, and some others can easily be dried. Even more than gardening, the idea of putting up part of a winter's supply of food will be new to many an apartment wife.

Chickens in the shade

For your friends whose lawns are too shady for a garden, Mr. Wickard has suggested that unless city laws forbid, they keep poultry or rabbits in their own yards this year. A rooster, chief objection of the neighbors, isn't needed unless the eggs are for hatching. "Pigs just aren't city animals," Mr. Wickard conceded. But suburban and country families, he said, should have them.

Program notes

Rationed foods

OPA has responsibility for handling rationed foods from the time they are ready for distribution until they reach consumers. OPA will set the value of coupons used in the point system and change it as need arises. The USDA, however, determines the need, time, and extent of civilian food rationing.

Civilian supplies of canned vegetables from next summer's estimated pack will increase by about 10 million cases under changes in the amounts of certain processed foods reserved for Government needs. Most of the increase for civilians will be on tomatoes and snap beans.

Restrictions on the amounts of 69 canned fruits, vegetables, and juices that wholesalers may distribute to retailers were removed February 20, so wholesalers could refill retailers' stocks before rationing March 1.

Greatly increased dehydrated-vegetable production is expected by July 1. In less than a year the Department approved 187 additional vegetable-dehydration plants, with a capacity of about 200,000,000 pounds annually.

Here are seven USDA tips on buying and using point-rationed processed foods. (1) Fit the foods into a balanced diet and don't duplicate what you can buy fresh. (2) Read labels for facts on quantity, quality, ingredients, and use. (3) Choose the size of can most economical for your use. (4) Buy the quality for your purpose (for example, Grade A, or Fancy, fruit isn't needed for salad or pie). (5) Store processed foods where they keep best (tin in dry place, glass in dry, dark, cool place, etc.). (6) Cook foods quickly, to hold vitamins. (7) Use good juices.

Secretary Wickard, Secretary Ickes, and Governor Tugwell of Puerto Rico have announced a program to encourage production and support prices of food crops in Puerto Rico. It comprises fertilizer allocation, determination of sugarcane acreage planted to foods, importation of seeds and establishment of 43 seed-producing centers, price-support purchase of certain commodities.

Other programs: Feed industry to hold protein content in mixed feed to maximum amounts; CCC to make additional soybean seed available to farmers; producers in eight States to get castor beans free for planting from AAA and selling yield to CCC; FDA to buy dried eggs at specified prices, March 1, 1943, through January 1944; to buy sulphur dioxide packed strawberries in South and Southwest for war export (FDA).

Orders announced: CCC to control soybeans, to increase production of oil, meal, and cake from 1942 crop; 12 private tea importers to handle distribution; salmon canners to sell one-fifth of 1942 pack for civilians; California-Arizona orange handlers credited with excess over weekly reservations; to ration one-row, horse-drawn cultivators of riding type; FDA director to dispose of peanut oil set aside at point of refining; milk-can manufacturers to supply same States as in 1941; to continue limiting oilseed meal stocks.

Department reports large supplies of short-staple, low-grade cotton and small supplies of higher grade, longer staple Upland cotton . . . Cotton improvement groups may file applications for classification and market news service after planting and before August 1 or 15.

So they said

Forest Service said the domestic fuel situation may be more acute next winter, particularly in Pacific Northwest, where 60 percent of dwellings are heated by wood. FS urged planning for next year's supply of fuel wood now. Most woods require 6 to 12 months of seasoning.

Dr. William M. MacKellar, BAI, said the annual death rate of hogs from cholera is less than a fifth of what it was 20 years ago.

Secretary Wickard told State and County War Boards to take necessary steps to bring in any crops not harvested last fall.

FDA officials told Soap and Glycerin Industries Advisory Committee that civilian use of glycerin may be cut further unless production is increased. About 85 percent of output is going into war production.

Secretary Wickard called on farmers growing summer and fall vegetables for the fresh market to increase production of more nutritive ones, such as carrots, kale, snap and lima beans, beets, corn, tomatoes, cabbage, onions, spinach, peas.

The FPA price support and loans branch is abolished and its work and personnel are now a part of the production programs branch.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA April 12, 1943

Keep on keeping on

On Monday, March 29, Chester C. Davis arrived to take office as administrator of food production and distribution in our Department, and on the same day Secretary Wickard told employees:

> The employees of the Department of Agriculture, whether in Washington or in the field, should go ahead vigorously with their duties. Chester Davis has returned to the Department to take over important responsibilities in connection with food. I have discussed the situation with him and we are in complete agreement that there should not be a moment's interruption in the work of the Department. Mr. Davis has worked in the Department. He understands its operations and the magnitude of the problems confronting it. His concern is the solution of these problems and it is the duty of every employee in the Department, from the Secretary down, to help in every possible way. The best way to do that is to go ahead with the duties already assigned.

Executive order

By Executive order, the President consolidated the Food Production Administration (except the Farm Credit Administration), the Food Distribution Administration, the Commodity Credit Corporation, and the Extension Service into an *Administration of Food Production and Distribution*, under the direction of Administrator Davis, who is directly responsible to the President. He will exercise all the powers, functions, and duties conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture by the Executive order of December 5, 1942 (*USDA*, December 20), and has full authority over the funds and personnel available for these purposes. The Administrator is also charged by the President with the job of mobilizing agricultural manpower. The Secretary of Agriculture continues as chairman of the Inter-Departmental Food Committee, of which Mr. Davis now becomes a member, as a member of the War Production Board, and as American representative on the Combined Food Board (Great Britain and the United States).

Chester C. Davis, who comes on leave from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, was administrator of the AAA from December 1933 to June 1936. He served as agriculture's representative on the National Defense Commission in 1940–41. As associate administrator, Mr. Davis has named Jesse W. Tapp.

CHESTER C. DAVIS

Black markets

USDA workers are leading the way in the campaign to stamp out black markets in meat. This country can have enough meat in 1943 for military, lend-lease, and civilian needs (17 billion pounds, or over 124 pounds, dressed weight, for each civilian), provided the black marketeers are put out of business. It is part of our job to help honest farmers, slaughterers, dealers, storekeepers, and consumers stamp them out.

One of the worst phases of black markets in meat is the enormous waste of critical materials, such as hides (for leather), lard and other fats, and variety meats (livers, kidneys, sweetbreads, and so on). These are often thrown away by the black marketeer in order to sell only the choicest cuts at above-ceiling prices.

Farmers, slaughterers

All slaughterers—even a farmer selling part of an animal raised on his farm—must get a slaughter permit and the permit number must be stamped on each wholesale cut of meat. Permits are obtained in USDA offices in cities usually FDA meat inspection and grading offices. In rural areas County War Boards are issuing the permits. Farmers can report suspicious offers from possible black marketeers to their War Boards. Farmers should keep accurate records of buying or selling livestock (the chances are most of them are already doing so). This helps check up on dubious dealers who may have bought farm animals.

Livestock dealers, except those already licensed, must get permits to buy and sell live animals and should record purchases and sales.

Storekeepers

Every retail meat butcher must display the new OPA ceiling prices for pork (similar maximum prices are to be announced soon for beef, veal, lamb and mutton). Ceiling prices are determined by USDA grades—Choice, Good, Commercial, Utility, Cutter, and Canner—which must be stamped on wholesale cuts of meat for sale. There's very little Choice meat nowadays in the stores. The Prime grade has been discontinued for the duration.

Consumers

Consumers need to know this brief outline of the Government's campaign against black markets in meat. In the past, they may have unknowingly helped the black markets, and hurt themselves, by buying low-grade meat at high-grade prices—possibly slaughtered under unsanitary conditions. Now, however, the sale of meat above the ceiling price, or without a ration stamp, is evidence of black market operations; and the black market is sabotage.

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Department people

Ben James, of FDA marketing reports, is the new editor of Consumers' Guide.

Light that did not fail

Power lines were down in Greenville, Calif, the evening of January 22. A nurse from the local hospital knocked frantically at the door of Assistant Ranger Jack Hunt of the Plumas National Forest. A baby was to be born and the hospital was without lights. Open flame lamps are dangerous where ether is used. Ranger Hunt had just what was needed, fire-fighting headlights by which Ronald Terry Taunt, a future fire fighter, was born.

The Farmer Citizen at War, by Howard R. Tolley, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, covers background, present and future. Vice-President Wallace, in a foreword to the book, describes the author as "one of the men most responsible for building the Bureau of Agricultural Economics into one of the greatest agencies for public service."

U. S.-Canadian committee

A new Standing Agricultural Committee of Canada and the United States of America will coordinate agricultural production and distribution of the two countries. Each has four members on the committee. Those from the United States are L. A. Wheeler, OFAR Director, R. F. Hendrickson, FDA Director, J. B. Hutson, CCC President, and M. C. Townsend, FPA Director.

More than a thousand books and some 750 magazines were given to the Victory Book Campaign for members of the armed forces by REA staff members in St. Louis during one week of February. The collection was presented as REA's Sherman F. Mittell Memorial Library, honoring the late editor and founder of the National Home Library Foundation.

Dr. Louis H. Rohrbaugh, Division of Training, Personnel, has a year's leave of absence to be director of the Department Graduate School. He replaces Dr. Eldon Johnson, who is now academic director of the University Meteorological Program, Army Air Corps.

A forest guards' wartime women's auxiliary is being organized on the Mount Hood National Forest in Oregon. Under the direction of Forest Service Guard George Henderson, the SQUAWS are training to help keep down forest fires that might destroy valuable war resources. They will help in emergency communications, feeding, and supplying fire fighters, and a lot of other services.

They call themselves the Seasonal Qualified Unskilled Auxiliary Women's Services.

Wheel of life

Now and then Research Administrator Auchter finds time for a talk with a group of lawyers in the Solicitor's Office, or information men, or other Department workers usually thought of as nonscientific members of our Department. They are unfailingly grateful for it. As Louis Burgess, Office of Information, San Francisco, said:

> After hearing in fascinating detail some of the work ARA people are doing, one felt that, after a decade or so some of the economic and social stirups we are now experiencing may seem somewhat superficial compared with the deep roots of organic change in our society which are slowly establishing themselves under the surface of daily life through research activity.

Dr. Auchter is usually too busy to keep notes on what he says and much of his material is the off-the-record, anyway. But his thinking centers around the familiar metaphor of the wheel of life—soil, plants, animals, humans, and back to the soil. The soil nourishes the plants, which in turn nourish animals and humans, destined to return to the earth. When you think of it in these terms, says Auchter, our research on animals, plants, human nutrition, home economics, even agricultural economics, always begins somewhere with the soil and follows the same great cycle. All of it, in other words, is interconnected, part of one big whole, which has to do with human welfare; and "projects" and "bureaus" are merely convenient pigeonholes. As an example, Dr. Auchter may point to a region of the United States which presents a problem for doctors because so many people there suffer from goitre; research shows a deficiency of iodine in the soil. As Research Administrator, he is interested not only in the fact that Louisiana sugarcane, threatened with destruction by mosaic disease, was saved by breeding new, resistant varieties, but in the fact that thousands of farmers and workers, dependent on the industry for a living, were likewise rescued.

Program notes

Prospective plantings

The Crop Reporting Board on March 19 announced the following indicated crop acreages for 1943, based on reports from farmers from all parts of the country. The acreages actually planted may turn out larger or smaller because of weather conditions, price changes, labor supply, financial conditions, the farm program, and the effect of the prospective plantings report itself on farmers.

Corn—96,827,000 acres, 106.4 percent of 1942; *spring wheat*—14,707,000, 103.6 percent; *oats*—42,638,000, 99.9 percent; *barley*—19,306,000, 99.3 percent; *flaxseed*—6,051,000, 129 percent; *rice*—1,505,000, 100 percent; *sorghums*—16,594,000, 103 percent; *potatoes*—3,174,000, 113.6 percent; *sweetpotatoes*—813,000, 114.8 percent; *tobacco*—1,402,000, 101.6 percent; *dry edible beans*—2,480,000, 116.2 percent; *dry field peas*—677,000, 135.1 percent; *soybeans* [1]—15,603,000, 109.7 percent; *cowpeas* [1]—2,974,000, 87.3 percent; *peanuts* [1]—5,230,000, 112.5 percent; *tame hay* [2]—60,270,000, 100.1 percent; *sugar beets*—740,000, 70.5 percent.

Civilian curtailments

Secretary Wickard authorized OPA to ration meats, edible fats and oils (including butter), cheese, and canned fish. This began March 28.

Meat orders issued for fair distribution and prevention of black markets: Livestock slaughterers who sell meat to operate under permit and stamp number on wholesale cuts; livestock dealers to buy and sell stock under permit and to record

[1] Grown alone for all purposes. Partly duplicated in hay acreage.
[2] Acreage harvested.

operations; Federally inspected slaughterers to set aside for war purposes 40 to 80 percent of beef (depending on grade), 30 percent of veal, 35 percent of lamb and mutton, 45 percent of pork. Two administrators of these orders were appointed: M. O. Cooper, Washington; E. S. Waterbury, Chicago.

Manufacturers of processed cheddar cheese may count each 100 pounds sold to designated Government agencies as 95 pounds of that required to be set aside under Food Distribution Order No. 15.

Food priorities, from FR 1, the highest, to FR 10, were set up for Government agencies and essential civilian users.

Food industry

FDA's Grease Oil Producers Advisory Committee will study means of increasing production of grease and lard oils for war industries . . . FDA asked the fats and oils industry to increase refining capacity of tall oil, a byproduct of wood pulp and "extender" of fats and oils . . . Beginning April 16, FDA will control movement of peanut, cottonseed, and corn oils in commercial channels on monthly allocation . . . FDA urged tung oil users to substitute oiticica oil.

FDA requested baking powder producers to estimate needs for raw materials and containers for last half of 1943 . . . Bakers were permitted to resume slicing of bread for home use.

Livestock and poultry

Extension Poultry Husbandman H. L. Shrader told how to start small, back-yard poultry flocks for emergency food production . . . Department announced a plan to increase average egg production per hen by at least 10 percent, through heading all hatchery supply flocks with high quality roosters.

Vaccination to prevent brucellosis of cattle was reported effective in a great majority of cases . . . Poultry specialists said turkey producers, by good management and marketing, can largely prevent two parasitic diseases . . . Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, BAI, from Washington, diagnosed and recommended treatment for sheep parasites in North Africa.

Farm labor

Department announced an educational program under county agents, to help farmers use present farm labor and new workers in U. S. Crop Corps. The program includes stressing farm work simplification and short cuts of all kinds to save steps and time (*USDA*, March 27) . . . Secretary Wickard telegraphed State Governors proposing release of students in small towns and rural areas, to help with spring planting of essential crops where labor is scarce . . . The Government of the Bahama Islands has signed an agreement with the Department for importing farm workers to Florida and adjoining States. It also is again recruiting Mexican agricultural workers for the Southwestern States.

Farmers

Crop insurance was extended to wheat planted in excess of 1943 acreage allotments or permitted acreages.

Department said farmers who buy straight, high-protein feeds can use them most efficiently in combination with home-grown feeds, so protein does not exceed maximum recently agreed on for commercial mixed feeds . . . Farm families enlisted in 1943 food production will be awarded Certificate of Farm War Service.

Programs announced: To assure farmers 20 to 50 percent higher prices for canning vegetables and protect canners against loss through increased cost of raw products; loans and purchases supporting prices to farmers on soybeans; loans for flaxseed, based on price support of $2.70 a bushel.

Farmers will be permitted to exceed cotton acreage allotments by 10 percent, but cotton marketing quotas will be retained . . . Crop insurance is extended to cotton planted within 110 percent of acreage allotments . . . Farmers signed up for production of 185,000 acres of hemp for fiber.

One out of 10, or more than 100,000, farmer borrowers from 12 Federal Land Banks and Lank Bank Commissioner repaid their loans in full in 1942 . . . Local bankers were asked to help County War Boards and other Department credit agencies consider applications for RACC loans.

On recommendation of the Combined Food Board, the major part of North American production of concentrated phosphate fertilizers was allocated to the United Kingdom. This will not affect the supply of superphosphates for United States farmers.

Small farmers

Beginning in 1935, the Nation helped thousands of small farmers, through Farm Security Administration loans and supervision in farm-and-home management, to become self-supporting.

Now the little farmers are doing an amazing job. Without tractors they can tend cows and chickens. They can convert to special war crops quickly. More than a third of the Nation's increase in milk production last year came from 463,941 farms of FSA borrowers. They also produced 27 percent of the total increase in dry beans and 10 percent of the total increase in eggs, chickens, and peanuts. They are paying back their money debts ahead of time while they raise Food for Freedom.

FSA, as part of the Food Production Administration, continues to help them with loans and workable ideas.

Forests

War is cutting deep into the forests. To open up more than 15 billion board feet of inaccessible timber as well as minerals, the Forest Service has been asked to build or improve 97 "access" roads, many in the wild mountains of the West. The new roads will increase the annual cut on the national forests alone by about 300 million feet. However, cutting on the national forests will continue to be handled on the basis of "sustained yield," only the mature timber being taken. It is the wasteful cutting on much of the privately owned land which is causing concern.

One of our important post-war jobs, according to Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the Forest Service, will be planting trees on millions of denuded acres. Only limited planting by conscientious objectors and occasional groups of volunteers is planned this year.

A Forest Service report says that more than 11 billion board feet of lumber will be needed in 1943 just for shipping containers. Only 4½ billion feet of such lumber was used, on an annual average, in the past 20 years.

With building curtailed during the war, post-war lumber demands may be enormous. Frank J. Hallauer, of the Forest Service, estimates that farmers alone will require 5.9 billion board feet of lumber a year, just to keep up their present farm plants.

Management column

Other suggestions

Other suggestions made recently (*USDA*, February 20): Minna L. Komiss, REA, suggests the next REA phone directory (why not the Department one?) have a section indexed according to divisions, with regions, sections, and units, as well as names. "In many cases the names of individuals from whom information is wanted is not known, often necessitating an extra call or two. The constant changes in personnel also make extra calls necessary."

Two from FPA: Improvement in budget green sheets, particularly so they can be mimeographed without slip sheets, is urged by Richard M. Kloeber; Maurice Donnelly's suggestion (see *USDA*, February 20) was voted the best FPA one from the field in January.

Mary D. Keniston, FDA, Milwaukee, recommends a snap-out arrangement for Form AMA-146 (this will be done, saving about $2,000 a year).

The Beltsville superintendent, C. A. Logan, suggests that Government employees be paid once a month (except perhaps custodial employees). He feels this would save many man-hours and materials.

Fred Zimmerman, Office of Information, got a $100 war bond in the Washington Post suggestion contest. He believes all Government agencies should use a uniform slip for referring letters. Some offices write letters referring letters; others use printed slips requiring typing. Mr. Zimmerman ought to know; the distribution section, of which he's assistant chief, gets about 200 letters a day that are sent to the wrong department or need action by both his office and the one originally getting the letters.

Rose A. Hyde, OFAR, thinks "there is entirely too much rewriting in many offices of the Government." In wartime, it's especially a waste of "womanpower," she says, for supervisors to have letters rewritten because the margins and indentations aren't just according to Hoyle.

J. L. Talbert, Office of Budget and Finance, proposes central collection of information on Government-owned motor vehicles, such as their number, mileage, cost of operation. Mr. Talbert believes this would provide better information than is now available and save high costs of filling requests for information.

A day at the farm

Accompanying a Mexican agricultural editor, Dr. Mariano Quiroz, *USDA's* staff toured Beltsville with Superintendent Logan.

What impressions of American agricultural science Dr. Quiroz gained, only time will tell. But the sights on the world's largest scientific farm in wartime were impressive in any language. Covering more than 11,000 acres, with some 2,000 employees, the Department's chief experiment station is all out for war.

This goes for the slopes where the best protective grasses from all parts of the world are tried out (conservation increases production), as well as for the secret war research at Beltsville, which was not shown. It goes for the small building where David Young eagerly showed us the new Beltsville fashions in cotton stockings, where they are making single-ply hosiery yarns from short-staple cotton to replace yarns formerly imported. We have long-staple cotton, but not the necessary spindles. The cotton yarns are treated with chemicals to increase elasticity and strength. It goes for the immaculate pens where the beautiful white Danish Landrace pigs, obtained before the war, transmit through a variety of crossbreeds their great bacon-producing qualities to American hogs. It was a good idea for the Danes to let us have them; with their own pig stocks looted by the Nazis we may be able to return the favor after the war.

The reactions of Dr. Quiroz, to the extent they could be learned through Graduate School Spanish, were likewise interesting. He was only lukewarm about the small, stylish, streamlined turkeys. They are O. K. for small families, but Dr. Quiroz wanted to get some eggs of the big, Bronze turkeys. He gestured with his hands. Likewise he was less interested in the dual-purpose cow, another Beltsville favorite (a high milk producer which bears good veal calves, too) than in Lady Gerben Watson Star, a beautiful Holstein who was last year's 3-year-old champion in her class. She gave 19,813 pounds of milk and 842 pounds of butterfat in 1942, and Mr. Sweetman, her custodian, said she looks good to cop the title again. Most Beltsville milk touches no human hand except that of the stenographer who opens her bottle in the Welfare Store of the Administration Building. From the electric milkers it is pumped into the scales, weighed, and piped off.

It was a little difficult explaining to Dr. Quiroz about the calf which at only 6 weeks was already on a diet of grain and nibbled at the assistant editor's fur coat. Sure, there's plenty of milk, but the idea is to see just how soon they can leave it, releasing milk products for Army, Navy, and lend-lease. Nor did he react much to the blind bull, deprived of vitamin A since birth. "Patheetic," said Dr. Quiroz.

His movie camera came out for the first time at the majestic new buildings of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, which is now thoroughly rooted at Beltsville following the Army's appropriation of the old Arlington Experimental Farm.

There is bad news for the Axis in the greenhouses—Hevea rubber trees, planted since Pearl Harbor, already 20 feet high; guayule shrubs, which Dr. Quiroz photographed affectionately (for some reason, he said, they have never been cultivated in Mexico, although a rubber industry is established there on the wild plants); Cryptostegia, or Madagascar rubber vine, whose ends bleed when clipped; and the Russian dandelion, or koksaghyz, seeds of which were flown over from Moscow last year.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA April 27, 1943

How they did it last year

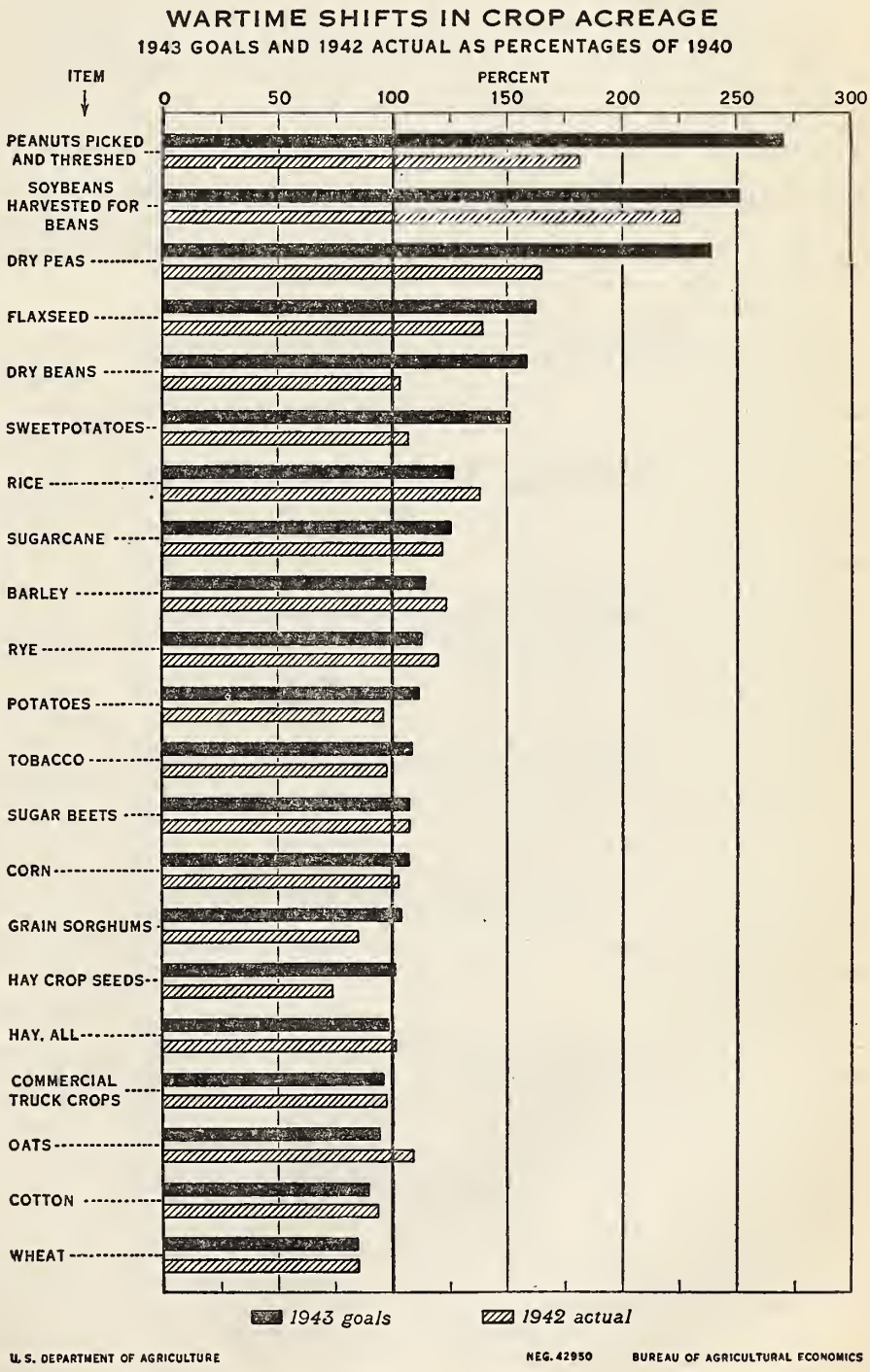
Early issues will carry stories of what local folks are now doing and plan to do in 1943. Meanwhile, here are examples (collected by Extension Service) of how farmers pooled their labor and machinery, and how women, white-collar workers, and kids from school went out to work last year. In 1943 these examples of all-out cooperation were the exception; this year they must be the rule.

Machinery and labor pools

In the aptly named Fairplay community of Saline County, Ark., 18 farmers, 4 with tractors, the others "2-horse," agreed on the cost of using different types of equipment per hour and the pay per hour for exchange of labor. When they exchanged labor, they told the group secretary, and at the end of the year settled their debts in cash or feed. They kept full acreages in production, harvested all crops . . . In Tipton County, Ind., this is how farmers harvested a soybean crop almost double that of 1941. When county neighborhood leaders were organized, one man in each community was made responsible for getting his neighbors to exchange use of labor, machinery, and transportation. The Community Cooperator, they called him.

As a first step, all farmers in Walworth County, S. Dak., put their machinery in good shape. At threshing time, signs on the roads and "spotters" announced to all combines going north where help was needed; 30 power combines were stopped and got into the fields in time . . . Ten farmers in Utah County, Utah, last fall pooled their labor, teams, and wagons; chose a thresher operator; and got in all the crops without extra help.

To accomplish what looked last spring like an impossible job of harvesting truck crops, vegetable seed, sugar beets, and carrying on live-



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stock production, farmer planning committees in the Arkansas Valley of southeastern Colorado made a careful survey of labor needs and possible supply, with the county agent's office as clearing house. When the labor exchanges got under way, over 1,800 workers were being moved from field to field and area to area.

Women

Women who this year will have their own Nation-wide Land Army as part of the U. S. Crop Corps, have already proved the mettle of their pasture. "I never had my milk room cleaner than when one of the Connecticut Land Army girls worked for me in 1942," said Axel Hansan, farm manager of Morris, Conn. Said Henry Mosle of the same State, when his dairymaid went back to school in September, "She managed to get more milk from my Ayrshires than I could, and her gentleness with the animals was an 'eye opener' to my hired men." . . . The Litchfield County, Conn., Dairy Herd Improvement Association has three full-time girl testers and another part time. "The farmers like it," says Roy Newton of Kent. "In fact, we all clean up the milk room and cow barn more often than we used to."

Wrote a Hastings County, Minn., farm woman to the Department: "A group of 15 town women (and 2 men who work on night shifts in a flour mill) are the people who are saving the thousands of bushels of fine apples on our farm this year . . . These are all married women with little families. Before they come to the farm at 9 a. m., they wash clothes, get breakfast, get little children off to school, put up lunches for their husbands. They get home about 5:30, by their own choice, to get supper, put little folks to bed, and even can apples until midnight or later. And yet farmers think these town people 'can't take it' . . ."

White-collar men

E. C. Westbrook, Extension cotton specialist, estimates that 10 to 15 percent of Georgia's bumper crop last year was picked by city folks. The "cotton-picking holiday" started at Barnesville, in Lamar County, which closed down tight when almost every able-bodied man, woman, and child picked cotton and spread over half the State. The city folks and school children picked an estimated 150,000 bales . . . During prune harvest in Fayette County, Idaho, all business houses closed until 4 o'clock while employees picked.

The Commercial Club of Fowlerville, Mich., last year registered 400 clerks, salesmen, bankers, druggists, etc., for emergency farm work, whenever they could give two hours or more. They cultivated, planted, ran machines, did chores, as well as harvest. They became known as the "flying farm squadron," moving from farm to farm as needed, and they'll fight again this year . . . Goodhue, Minn., has only 500 people but 35 of its merchants helped last year. One worked 600 hours during the summer, and stayed in business.

Businessmen in Walworth County, Wis., held some shocking night parties last summer. They kept open stores and offices during the day, but went out at night to help shock grain; in Elkhorn alone, merchants, dentists, doctors, and others worked 1,500 man-hours and shocked 1,500 acres of grain.

Young people

This year school hours and terms all over the country are being adjusted to the needs of the farmers, because the young folks showed in 1942 what they could do when given the chance. Boys from Taft, Kent, Hotchkiss, Pomfret, and other swank Connecticut schools worked as laborers for 29 farmers who voted unanimously to have them again this year. The 16- and 17-year-olds lived in a labor camp, went to work in trucks, from June 8 to August 28.

In groups of 30 each under a teacher, school children in Marion County, Oreg., harvested much of the county's 28,000 acres of fruits and vegetables. Before school was out last spring, officials arranged a special farm work course taken by 10,000 school children. Farmers arranged for transportation. The Marion County plan of advanced training is being extended to other areas this spring . . . Two thousand Vermont high-school students last summer worked in sugar and apple orchards. Farmers said their work was satisfactory. The Volunteer Land Corps last summer placed 626 college and high-school students on Vermont and New Hampshire farms—550 boys and 76 girls. Most made good. "Victory Work Day," once a week during harvest time, was set aside at Nicholas County High School, Summersville, West Va., and high-school crews and teachers harvested, hauled, and did other jobs on the farms.

When two Tucker County, West Va., boys were going into the Army, 4-H Club boys arranged to hold their farewell party at night as a husking bee. A 10-acre field was husked and the corn hauled to the crib by midnight. Next night 250 more bushels were husked on a nearby farm, and so on until husking bees had been held for the whole community.

Everybody

Here's what happened in the Wenatchee-Okanagan district of central Washington, mobilized last September, when 1,600 carloads of apples were hanging on the trees.

First, boy students were excused from classes to help, while office workers and clerks picked for part of each day. When that wasn't enough, stores and offices shut down for several weeks. Housewives worked together, one caring for the kids while others picked. Schools closed; colleges released students. Citizens put up prizes, war bonds, etc., for students who could pick the most. Folks from Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, took a few days off and helped. Soldiers came from a nearby camp, and Indians from a reservation. The hunting season was changed to encourage hunters to pick now, hunt later. Fruit growers opened their homes and taught newcomers the tricks of the trade from dawn to dark.

It was unpatriotic for awhile in this section to be seen on the streets during the day.

Nearly all the apples were saved.

Program notes

United Nations Conference

Experts representing the United Nations meet in Hot Springs, Va., beginning April 27, to discuss such problems as food production and distribution, nutrition, and commercial and financial arrangements in the post-war period.

A territorial USDA War Board is being established in Alaska. Extension, Forest Service, and Farm Security Administration are represented on the board, the Extension director for Alaska acting as chairman.

Civilians

More than 2,000,000 cases of canned fruits and vegetables will be released soon by FDA for civilians. Most of the products are tomatoes, pears, plums, apples, and peaches. About 12,000,000 cases of canned fruits, juices, and vegetables—principally corn and peas—were transferred by the Army to FDA, to be released later in emergencies. FDA announced tea quotas for the second quarter of 1943 (making about the same quantity of tea available to civilians as in recent months); and reduced the number of sizes of packaged tea, tea bags, and containers. Quotas of black pepper and other restricted spices for civilians were reduced. Changes in the production and sale of citrus juices make more available for civilians.

War needs

Production of seven major dehydrated vegetables—Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, cabbage, carrots, beets, onions, rutabagas—is being reserved for military needs. All spray process dried whole eggs produced in 1943 and shell eggs in cold storage on May 13 are reserved for Government agencies.

Farmers

The distribution of nearly all types of farm machinery affected by the concentration plan is now completed.

A bill signed March 25 releases an additional 100,000,000 bushels of Government-owned wheat for feed. Orders can be placed through dealers, distributors, CCC regional offices, and AAA county committees.

Chemical fertilizer may now be delivered in 80-pound packages. Starter fertilizer for solutions for transplanting vegetables is available, but fertilizer containing chemical nitrogen is not available for field-grown cut flowers. Multiple-strength grades may be delivered on the same nitrogen-content basis as ordinary analysis fertilizer.

Price ceilings and supports: OPA price ceilings placed on corn; USDA price support for sweetpotatoes, at $1.15 to $1.45 a bushel; OPA ceilings on asparagus to allow for increase of 1 cent a pound; CCC to buy 1942 Kentucky hemp fiber broken by hand or with small machines, at 15 to 26 cents a pound.

Industries

Industrial consumers of rationed fats and oils who use these for other than edible purposes, experiments, and pharmaceuticals must apply for ration certificates from FDA Fats and Oils Branch.

Dealers in Bermuda and carpet grass seed may sell stocks (for merly frozen) to the Army Engineers Corps, which urgently needs it for sod at new airfields.

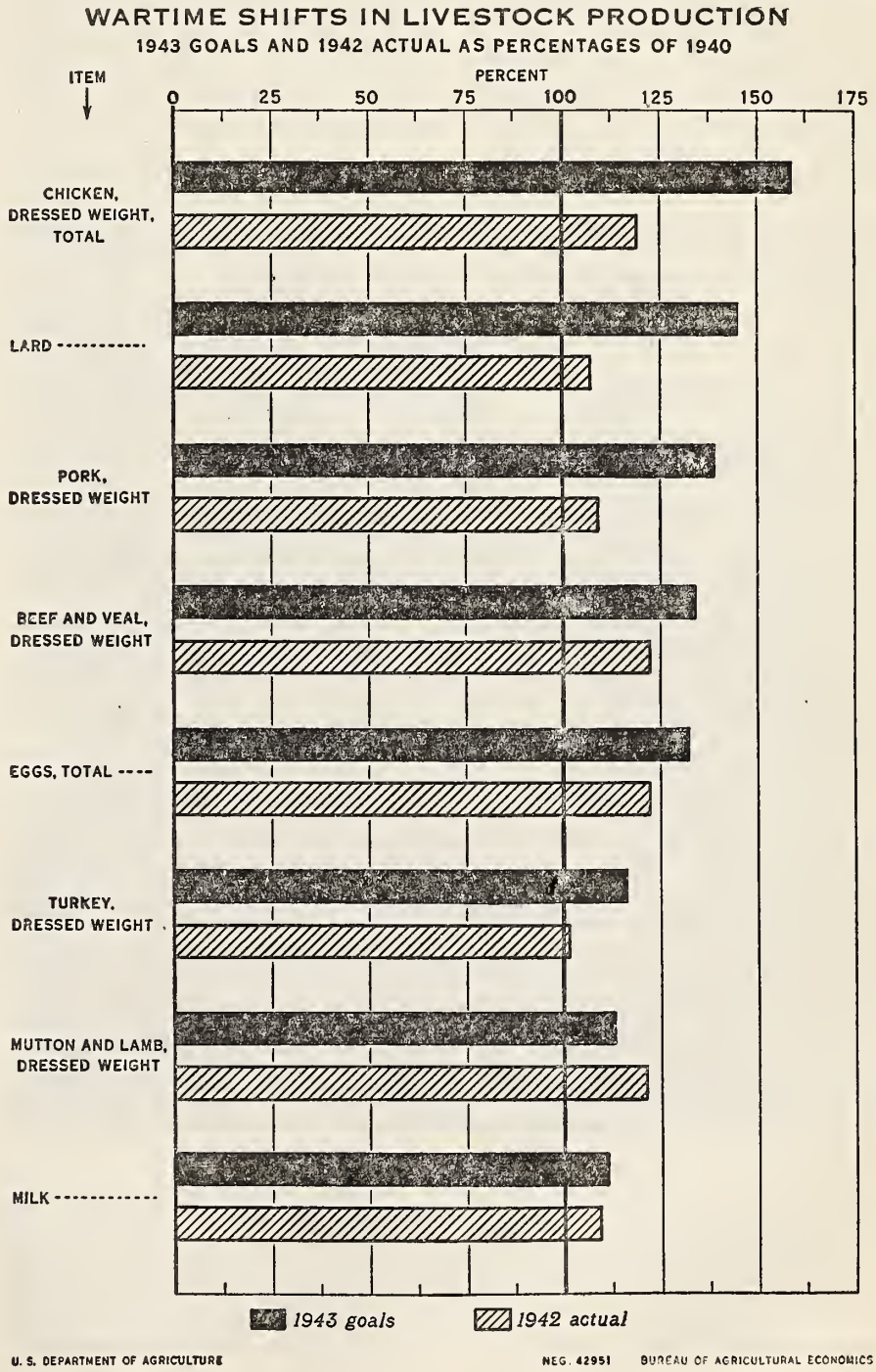
Insulation manufacturers using cotton will receive a payment of 9 cents a pound for finished cotton insulation produced according to specifications.

The USDA and Defense Supplies Corporation announced a contract for the second quarter of 1943, to sell wheat to distillers of industrial alcohol, for production of explosives.

Consumers

The Nutrition Division of the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services was transferred to FDA.

Distribution of foods through State Welfare departments to local communities for school lunch programs will be discontinued April 30.



However, schools can buy foods locally for their programs and be partly reimbursed by the FDA.

Chairman Donald Nelson of WPB has assured Secretary Wickard that restrictions on packaging materials will not limit the packing of essential foods.

So they said

The Agricultural Research Administration said research for the past 30 years helps protect buildings in military cantonments and Federal housing projects against termites, one of the worst insects hindering the war effort.

BAI report on control of equine sleeping sickness said a dry summer appears to reduce risk from this disease, and that vaccination is highly effective . . . Rubber Director Jeffers and Secretary Wickard said the guayule emergency rubber program is being curtailed to lessen interference with food production.

Department people

Lt. Col. Jay L. Taylor will direct the agricultural-labor work in the Food Production and Distribution Administration. Colonel Taylor, who was detailed to the Department by the Army, is chairman (on leave of absence) of the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, vice president of two Texas cooperatives, and a director of the National Livestock and Meat Board, and of the National Livestock Marketing Association, Chicago.

The Department's committee on draft deferments consists of S. B. Harrell, Office of Personnel, chairman; S. R. Newell and Frank J. Hopkins, War Food Administration; and Robert W. Trullinger, ARA. Requests for occupational draft deferments may be made to this committee through the regular channels by the supervisors of the individuals concerned; no Department employee may request deferment for himself.

Dr. Russell M. Wilder, chief, civilian requirements branch of Food Distribution, has been appointed by Secretary Wickard a member of the Food Advisory Committee (*USDA*, January 20).

High-school students in the public and private schools of Washington are helping address envelopes for the record-breaking numbers of Victory Garden bulletins requested. Where possible, requests are now being referred to the State agricultural colleges, which have stocks of the USDA bulletin and can also supply information adapted to local climate and soil.

Suggestion

John H. Lawrence, Forest Service assistant regional engineer at San Francisco, suggests farm-equipment pools, organized through the soil conservation districts, as one solution to the farm-machinery shortage. The FS, Mr. Lawrence says, operated one such pool successfully.

Whitney Tharin, assistant director of the Office of Information, and S. B. Bledsoe, Assistant to the Secretary, are leaving to enter private employment.

John W. Asher, Jr., REA personnel chief for the past year, is now special assistant to the Administrator, in the Liaison Office in Washington. Mr. Asher succeeds Elliott Pemberton, who accepted a commission in the Navy.

Robert K. McConnaughey is deputy governor of the Farm Credit Administration, succeeding W. H. Droste, who will become president of the Federal Land Bank of St. Louis (from which Chester Davis came to serve as Food Administrator). Mr. McConnaughey will also continue as associate solicitor of the Department of Agriculture.

An autoist on Highway 40 in the Tahoe National Forest, Calif., reported to Acting District Ranger Wheeler that a man's body, partly covered by snow, was lying along the highway. Wheeler, true to his training in rescue work, loaded his car with blankets and first-aid equipment and hastened to the scene. He was shocked to see a foot protruding from the snow bank. Wheeler carefully grasped the leg to set it in a more comfortable position and was horrified to see it swing freely in his hands.

It was an artificial wooden leg that had become detached from its wearer. Reported Wheeler to Supervisor Guerdon Ellis of the forest, "This limb must be of value to someone, and the owner can claim his leg by calling and identifying same."

Dr. Frederic B. Knight will head the Victory Farm Volunteer campaign of the Extension Service. A well-known farmer and educator, Dr. Knight will cooperate with the Office of Education in recruiting and training half a million high-school and college youth for farm work this summer.

The following serve on a Department equipment management council: J. Harold Monson, Food Production, F. J. Hughes, Food Distribution, George R. Boyd, ARA, and William P. Kramer, Forest Service. They will advise Arthur Thatcher, Chief of Plant and Operations, in his duties as Equipment Conservator and Mileage Administrator for the whole department.

Karl H. Klais, assistant chief of the AAA Aerial Photographic Laboratory, has been giving a JIT (Job Instructor Training) course for new employees. (See USDA, February 20, A call from the Secretary.) Women recruits are proving proficient at the work of interpreting aerial photographs and can replace men who are drafted.

Palemon Dorsett and John C. McDowell, Department scientists for many years, died in Washington recently. Mr. Dorsett, who had been in the USDA for more than 45 years, was a BPISAE plant explorer, and brought valuable varieties of soybeans, citrus, and other plants to this country. Dr. McDowell was chief of the BDI division of dairy herd improvement investigations.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA May 1, 1943

This is the story on jobs

For weal or woe, "Pop" Herrell, Assistant Director of Personnel, makes the following informal round-up of the facts as of present writing, so that we can get on with our work with a minimum of private uncertainty.

Ceilings on agencies

The Bureau of the Budget has placed strict ceilings on the number of employees various agencies of the Department may have on their pay rolls, as of May 10, 1943. For the most part, the Department has been able to stay within the ceilings by leaving many of its rapidly occurring vacancies unfilled.

The Budget Bureau excepted from the ceilings the Food Distribution Administration and the office of War Food Administrator Davis.

Three department agencies must separate employees by May 10. Soil Conservation Service is obliged to drop 22 in Washington and 224 in the field service, apportioned throughout the regions. Farm Security Administration must drop 66 at Cincinnati and Washington, and 1,698 in the field. The Departmental Office of Information must drop 18 employees in addition to the staff of the field information service. The Department hopes to place many of the employees separated from these agencies to fill vacancies in Food Distribution, Extension, and other services where their experience will be invaluable.

Further changes in Department organization and personnel are, of course, possible as a result of the pending Department of Agriculture appropriation bill, but such changes would not be effective until June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

Restrictions

The Department cannot, because of its shorthandedness, furlough its own employees to operate or work on farms, except for normal vacation periods. (This, of course, is a fine thing to do.) However, under the War Manpower Commission order, effective April 18, employees who feel that they would be more useful "outside" may request of the Director of Personnel a statement of availability, which will be issued if it is found that no satisfactory arrangements can be made for placing him elsewhere in the Department or in the Federal service. If the statement should be refused, the employee may appeal to the nearest Civil Service Commission representative; and his decision may be appealed to the War Manpower Commission. Permission will not be granted by the Department to leave for work in private industry, nor by the commission to leave USDA for another Federal agency, solely on the ground that an

THE *United States Department of Agriculture presents the Land Army. Left to right: Clarice Scott, home economist who designed the uniform; Anne Douglass, modeling on the steps of the South Building; her mother, Helen Douglass, script writer, modeling the farmerette uniform (with service stripes) she wore in 1918; Margaret Smith, who helped design the uniform for 1943; and, wearing civvies, Florence Hall, Extension Service, "commander in chief."*

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increase in salary is involved. An increase in salary does not in itself prevent the transfer; contribution to the war effort is the criterion. USDA workers who do obtain permission to leave the Department for other kinds of essential work may, as heretofore, be placed on leave-without-pay status, and in this case will have the same reemployment rights in USDA after the war as the Department men and women now in the armed services.

Good news

President Roosevelt's Executive order of April 8, stabilizing wages, prices, and salaries throughout the United States, does not prohibit promotions under the Mead-Ramspeck Act, meritorious promotions, or reclassifications. USDA Office of Personnel Circular, April 8, points out that the Civil Service Commission has granted authority to the Department to effect changes of status, without the prior approval of the commission, for all except temporary employees, both at Washington and in the field, "in advance of final audit by the commission." Reclassifications upward (the only kind one likes to think about) are subject to the following provisions: If the proposed reclassification would pay upon entrance from $300 to $600 more than the entrance rate of his present position, the employee must have served at least 6 months on the job, in his present grade, the equivalent, or one higher. If the reclassification would pay $600 or more above the employee's present job, he must have served at least 12 months. Where the proposed reclassification would pay less than $300 upon entrance than the entrance rate of his present position, the length of service required is 30 days.

The overtime pay bill, to extend overtime pay for Federal employees beyond its April 30 limit, as reported out of Senate committee, retains the same basic rates of overtime for USDA workers.

A Pennsylvania grower, concerned over inexperienced pickers, gave each a finger band of a color corresponding to the color of the tomato he wanted picked. At least one concern plans to manufacture plastic rings to sell for this purpose to growers. The idea might work with some other crops, too.

Program notes

Food Administrator Davis continues the Department policy of using price supports like a precision tool to stimulate production of what is most needed without breaking the price ceilings which protect consumers.

Between floor and ceiling

Until September 30, 1944, the recently announced support price for hogs at $13.25 per cwt. (far below the market) is being raised to $13.75, to encourage farmers to maintain production so far as feed supplies permit. At the same time, Mr. Davis pointed out that the WFA planned no changes in either wholesale or retail meat ceilings, and expected that meat rationing, together with the drive against black markets (*USDA*, April 12) would bring about a better balance between available supplies and civilian, military, and other requirements.

Ceiling prices on livestock are an administrative headache. But Mr. Davis said that plans are ready for clamping a ceiling, if necessary, on live hogs, while other methods are being considered for use if necessary to bring down livestock prices.

The WFA on April 7 suspended the order requiring livestock slaughterers to set aside certain percentages for Government purchase. This will facilitate more even distribution of meat for civilians. The order setting up civilian meat quotas, recently transferred from OPA to WFA, is continued in force. The WFA also authorized the USDA War Boards to grant slaughter permits and temporary quotas to butchers who do not have 1941 slaughter meat bases, but are otherwise qualified.

Feed

To have enough meat, we must have enough feed. Grain supplies are still large, but indications are that if the 1943 livestock goals are met, reserves will have to be drawn upon beginning next fall, while in case of serious 1943 crop failures, an actual shortage of feed grains might develop. Despite large supplies, Mr. Davis noted, corn has not been moving freely through normal trade channels and some shortages have developed. He talked with Canadians and Australians about importing feed for the northeastern, southeastern, and southwestern coast regions. This would reduce the strain on the railroads and trucks. If necessary, to insure enough feed, outstanding CCC corn loans will be called. Because we want plenty of pork now and enough feed for a future supply, hog farmers were advised not to increase breeding for 1943 fall farrowings by more than 15 percent above the 1942 level; an increase of only 5 percent will meet the over-all 1943 goal (*USDA*, December 5, 1942).

Corn has been held in storage to take advantage of ceiling prices which allow for a seasonal adjustment in corn prices of 1 cent a month to cover storage. The OPA is adjusting its ceilings in the surplus producing area to allow the maximum seasonal price now, in order to encourage corn to start moving again through trade channels. There will be no further change, said Mr. Davis, in the seasonal price of corn.

The recent action of Congress, which authorized continued sale of wheat for feed, will help the WFA in its efforts to stabilize the present level of feed prices, especially in dairy and poultry regions. This, too, is a continuation of our policy.

Wages

The time has come when some farm wages likewise need stabilizing. On April 14, Administrator Davis used for the first time the authority over farm wages granted the Department on November 30, 1942, by James F. Byrnes, Director of Economic Stabilization, and vested in the Food Administrator on March 26. The WFA set maximum wage rates in five California counties — Sacramento, San Joaquin, Yolo, Solano, and Contra Costa—for the work of harvesting asparagus for canning and freezing.

Other price supports

New price supports, through CCC loans and purchases, for dry beans, dry peas, peanuts, soybeans, and flaxseed were announced by the WFA April 8. The CCC will make loans on thresher-run beans of all classes.

OPA will increase by 1 cent a pound the price paid asparagus growers by canners in all States except Washington, Oregon, and California, where the increase will be 1½ cents. The CCC will buy wool from sheepmen at prices equal to the current ceiling prices less freight and allowance to cover marketing costs.

Other aids to farmers

The War Food Administration continues to use the Department's machinery to help farmers in various other ways.

Farmers can get certificates from War Boards to put rubber tires on tractors which need to go on the roads from farm to farm, or on soils which won't work well without them.

With the aid of FSA loans and supervision, the 463,941 "family sized farmers" who as FSA borrowers made record-breaking increases in major war crops in 1942 believed they can top last year's production by increases this year of 20 to 72 percent. A survey shows they expect to produce 20 percent more milk, 41 percent more eggs, 60 percent more chickens, 62 percent more pork, 36 percent more beef, 38 percent more dry beans, 62 percent more soybeans, 52 percent more flax, and 72 percent more peanuts.

To help farmers get plenty of seed potatoes and provide more table potatoes for civilians, the County War Boards will issue certificates to enable farmers or dealers to buy selected seed potatoes for planting (at prices not more more than 75 cents a cwt. over the country shipper's ceiling for table potatoes). To help meet the increased 1943 goals, the CCC will also buy in Maine a small quantity of selected seed potatoes at the 75-cent premium for growers in other areas if needed.

Civilians eat, too

Before a congressional committee last month, Secretary Wickard testified that the claim of the civilian population to its just share of the food supplies comes ahead of lend-lease and, at times, has even taken precedence of military demands. Recent actions of WFA Administrator Davis have likewise made this clear.

Civilians will get more prunes and raisins, too. The FDA has released 31,000 tons of prunes and raisins, reserved by West Coast packers. Normally, some fresh raisin grapes are used at table or for wine. The WFA will divert into raisins all raisin grapes in 8 California counties (except those covered by canning contracts approved by WFA). WFA, with the industry, is working out a program to aid raisin growers. Pacific Coast apricot crops will probably be low because of the weather.

Though there will probably be more canned fish for civilians from the 1943 pack than from last year's, they may get only three-fourths as much as in 1942, because fewer cans were carried over.

WFA asked the wheat flour milling industry to increase its 1943 production 25 percent over 1942.

Fifty-five percent of the dry beans and 60 percent of the dry and split peas held by processors or "first owners" are reserved by an FDA order. Nevertheless, civilians will have about 8 pounds of dry beans apiece during the 1942–43 marketing season, aside from the reserved beans. This is 1 pound more than seemed likely when beans and peas were rationed. We are getting more from Mexico and other countries for the Allies. Civilians will get about the same quantity of peas.

Seven basics

The Department lists seven basic food groups which everyone should get every day:

Group I—*Green and yellow vegetables*, some raw, some cooked, frozen, or canned. Group II—*Oranges*, *tomatoes*, *grapefruit*, or raw cabbage or salad greens. Group III—*Potatoes and other vegetables and fruits*, raw, dried, cooked, frozen, or canned. Group IV—*Milk and milk products*, fluid, evaporated, dried milk or cheese. Group V—*Meat*, *poultry*, *fish*, *or eggs*, or dried beans, peas, nuts, or peanut butter. Group VI—*Bread*, *flour*, *and cereals*, natural whole grain, or enriched or restored. Group VII—*Butter or fortified margarine*, vitamin A added.

Industry

The Nation's food-processing plants are eligible for the Army-Navy production award, the E for excellence. FDA will nominate the candidates.

FDA ordered more definite exemption from quotas on fats and oils of food and industrial products needed by the Army, Navy, and other war agencies. Importers of coconut, babassu, and palm kernel oils or oil-bearing materials from which these oils are produced must continue to set aside 25 percent for war purposes.

Thirteen wholesale growers were invited to join the National Wholesale Food Industry Advisory Committee of FDA.

Women's Land Army

Miss Florence Hall of Extension heads the Women's Land Army of the U. S. Crop Corps. About 60,000 town and city women are expected to enlist. Of these, 10,000 are expected to do year-round work, and 50,000 seasonal work for a month or more. Miss Hall has been Extension field agent for the 12 Northeastern States since 1928, working recently with the Connecticut Women's Land Army, American Women's Voluntary Services, and the Women's Farm Service Corps of Maine. The Extension Service and State agricultural colleges will supervise the Land Army, which is part of the U. S. Crop Corps (*USDA*, March 12).

In addition, some 300,000 women will join the U. S. Crop Corps for short-time emergency jobs—women who can spare week-ends, a few days, or a few weeks. They will be placed on farms by the county agents.

Recruiting and training

Local offices of the U. S. Employment Service, Civilian Defense Councils, and women's organizations will help recruit. The State Extension Service will review applications and select the workers. Drives for recruiting will get under way in each locality when the need arises, and women who wish to help should wait for local calls. Women placed on farms for year-round work will get from 3 to 6 weeks of training at a State agricultural college or similar institution, or on a farm. High schools (U. S. Office of Education) will help train.

Department people

Sam Reck, New Jersey Extension editor, reports that a whole acre of farm machinery was auctioned off in Burlington recently, under the Extension Volunteer Corps—the New Jersey name for the neighborhood leaders. A farmer had seen good machinery collecting rust on farms where it was no longer needed. The corps rounded up the machinery and the farmers donated the services of an auctioneer and clerk at a regular poultry auction.

The 30 employees of the 16-mile Virginia Blue Ridge Railway will eat this winter. On the promise that railroad hands would harvest and help with cultivation under their direction, Pres. John W. Powell contracted with neighboring farmers to plant fields which otherwise would have lain fallow. The railroad and farmers will share the crop, and the company will sell the produce at cost to the employees. Later, the company will send its steam shovel to scoop out a cave in an embankment on the right-of-way, where root crops can be stored for use during the winter.

THE Post Office Department is instructing rural and star route carriers to cooperate with the Forest Service and other forest-protection agencies by reporting along their routes.

THE Altergott family of Appleton, Wis., wrote to Secretary Wickard: "Lest some people give you the impression that you make mistakes because you aren't perfect, let us say thank you that we can feel safe in the assurance that if you do make a mistake you have the courage to correct it, as may have been the case in the bread slicing business . . ."

Marvin M. Sandstrom, FDA, replied: "Your complete understanding of our position on the matter of the bread slicing restriction is appreciated. Many people didn't know that the slicing ban was only one provision of the bread order. Through prohibiting consignment selling of bread, cutting down on the number of varieties any one baker could make, permitting only one covering of paper on a loaf, etc., the order continues to make big savings in food, materials, and labor."

AN OLD Spanish custom in Texas is for merchants and others to give a money or merchandise premium to the farmer bringing in the first bale of cotton in a town or county. The Texas Extension Service says that last season the High Plains area offered $500 to the farmer and ginner producing the *best* bale. The plan spread to other areas, and this year the Brazos Valley Cotton Cooperative Marketing Association gave war bonds as prizes.

FARM real-estate values on March 1, 1943, were sharply higher than a year ago. A BAE survey shows the index of average per acre values (1912–14 equals 100) for the country as a whole was 99, compared with 91 in 1942, 85 in 1941, and a low of 73 in 1933.

THE War Food Administration has appointed two men from the packing industry to the FDA livestock and meats branch: G. B. Thorne and Wells E. Hunt.

Information changes

Henry Jarrett is now assistant director of the Office of Information, succeeding Whitney Tharin (*USDA*, April 27). W. K. Charles continues as chief of press and Wallace L. Kadderly as chief of radio.

The Field Information Service of the Office of Information is abolished. A distribution control desk is being set up in the Office of Information at Washington. All information going to the field will be channeled through this desk. J. K. McClarren is acting distribution control officer.

FARM work simplification was among the subjects discussed at the 2-day meeting of the Land Grant College Department Committee on Training for the Government Service, April 19–20. Dr. E. C. Young, director of the farm work simplification project at Purdue (*USDA*, March 27) told what is being done there and plans were made for training leaders who can help farmers simplify their work.

THE scope, publication, and distribution of the Department's technical and scientific publications are discussed by Dr. M. C. Merrill, chief of publications, and Librarian Shaw in the April 17 issue of *Science*, official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

For what they are worth:

In his part of the country, reports County Agent Earl W. Bjork, of Richland County, Mont., there is a good deal of horse-drawn machinery no longer in use because of mechanization. He suggests that plans be made for collecting and selling to farmers elsewhere. M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension, thinks this is a good suggestion.

From Tucson, Ariz., F. K. Jeffery, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, writes to suggest that all supervisory employees should be rated by their immediate subordinates, as well as vice versa. The plan, he suggests not unreasonably, "would keep everybody on his toes."

Scientific paper-shuffling

John E. Dodds, processed fruit and vegetables, suggests the Department follow the example of the famous lawyer, Morris Ernst, who avoids mere acknowledgments of correspondence by the use of four letters, DBTA—don't bother to answer. Stan Williams, of the Secretary's Office, suggests that bureaus, divisions, and field offices wishing to avoid useless writings back and forth adopt the symbol NAR—no answer required.

The fine old institution of the "transmittal letter" suffered a hard blow when Director I. W. Duggan of AAA's Southern Division requested that letters of transmittal accompanying reports from counties to State and other such correspondence be surveyed for speedy elimination; also that transmittal letters of no consequence be cleared from files. This followed a suggestion made by Mrs. Katherine M. Jones of the marketing quota unit, Mississippi State Office.

Mrs. E. G. Rogers, publications unit, SCS, proposes among other things that Uncle Sam should prepare a consolidated list of all mailing lists maintained by the Government Printing Office, the national war agencies, and other Federal agencies, cancel all duplicate sets of lists, and finally prepare a directory showing all Federal lists for mailing and distribution purposes.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA May 15, 1943

United Nations Conference

The first international conference to concern itself with the practical subject of enough food for everybody meets May 18 at Hot Springs, Va. (the date was moved back from April 27). The discussions, the State Department has emphasized, are preliminary, and not binding on any of the 40 odd nations represented. But because their subject is the world food supply, we will follow them with interest.

Reading the agenda of subjects listed for discussion, many Department workers felt, "This is where I came in." For stripped of formal terms, the delegates have about the same agenda as the farmers who drift in to talk by the stove in the feed store.

Where we come in

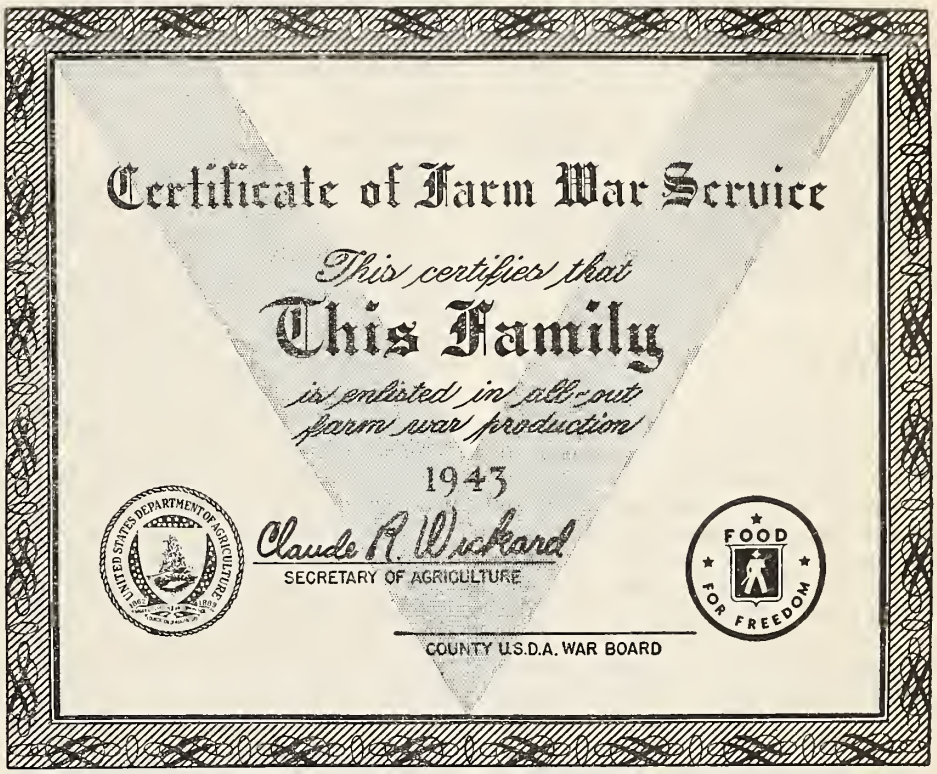
The people of the democracies must first approve post-war plans about their daily bread. To pass on any plans intelligently, the people need to understand the problems which the plans are meant to solve. And so far as our own country and our own Department are concerned, USDA workers have for years faced many of the problems now projected on a world-wide scale.

Here is the list of topics, and in parenthesis, after each, some of the branches of our Department for which the discussion will have special interest:

(I) Consumption levels and requirements.
- (A) Food.
  - (1) Character and extent of consumption deficiencies in each country (Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, FDA Civilian Food Requirements Branch, Nutrition and Food Conservation Branch).
  - (2) Causes and consequences of malnutrition (BAE, BHNHE).
  - (3) Measures for improving standards of consumption (education, etc.) (Extension, FSA, AAA, WFA Civilian Programs Branch).
  - (4) Reasonable national and international goals for improved food consumption (BAE, AAA, BHNHE).
- (B) Other essential agricultural products.
  - (1) Pre-war consumption levels in various countries as influenced by prosperity or depression and by buying power of the population (BAE).
  - (2) Reasonable national and international goals for improved consumption with sustained employment and expanded industrial activity (good domestic example: Forest Service's "sustained yield" policy).

(II) Expansion of production and adaptation to consumption needs.
- (A) Measures for redirection of production toward more essential commodities (what the War Food Administration is working on now).
- (B) Measures for shifting production out of commodities in chronic surplus (AAA).
- (C) Measures for improving agricultural productivity and efficiency (just about the whole Department: All branches of the Agricultural Research Administration and Food Production Administration; also REA, Forest Service, and staff offices).
- (D) Measures for development and conservation of agricultural resources (AAA, SCS, Forest Service).
- (E) Opportunities for occupational adjustments in agricultural populations (FSA).

(III) Facilitation and improvement of distribution (FDA).
- (A) Relation of national and international economic policies to agricultural problems, with special reference to the facilitation of the movement of agricultural products in commerce.
  - (1) Expansion of international trade (Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations).
  - (2) Broad policies for assuring increased production and consumption in general (the whole Department).
- (B) Improvement of agricultural marketing, processing, and distribution



BEGINNING *this month, farm families enlisted in the fight get these certificates.*

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(all the commodity divisions of FDA, likewise the Transportation and Warehousing Branch, inspectors and graders of many crops and commodities, meat, vegetables, fruit, poultry, grain, Facilities and Processors Branch, FCA Banks for Cooperatives).

(C) Special measures for wider food distribution.

(1) Improvement of consumption of low income groups (FSA, FDA Nutrition and Food Conservation Branch, BHNHE).

(2) International disposition of commodities in oversupply (FDA).

(D) Buffer stocks and commodity arrangements to assure equitable prices and adequate supplies (USDA agencies which built up the Ever Normal Granary).

(IV) Recommendations for continuing and carrying forward the work of the conference.

(USDA workers will venture the prediction that while its work will never be finished, it will always be worth doing.)

Click

In March 1943, when point rationing put a heavy strain on supplies of fresh vegetables, Uncle Sam had already quite a few points of local contact where folks could get the facts on food. USDA market news offices in hundreds of cities knew what was happening. Field offices of the Office of Price Administration had information on rationing, point values, and ceiling prices. In most counties were USDA home demonstration agents to help folks make the best of what they could get. Likewise in the States and communities were nutrition committees, established early in the defense program under auspices of another Federal agency.

In March a lot of coordination quickly began to happen. After a brief conversation in Washington, the nutrition experts moved over to the USDA, where they joined the food conservation people in FDA to become the Nutrition and Food Conservation Branch (headed by M. L. Wilson). The State and local nutrition committees which they headed thus come under Department of Agriculture auspices. Roy Hendrickson, Food Distribution Administrator, who already had nutritionists in the field working on the school lunch program, combined them with the newcomers and reshuffled the deck to place one nutrition expert in each of the seven FDA regional offices to serve the combined program.

They got together

Next, from Washington, each of the scattered local contact points, the nutrition committees, the marketing offices, the home demonstration agents, and the field offices of OPA, were supplied with the names and addresses of the others, and told to get together and put the information in one package.

(For example, a local radio station, instead of having one program on what's on the market, another with suggested menus, a third which discussed point values, and a fourth on nutrition, put the whole story in one show.)

Score 100

The War Board in Montezuma County, Colo., completed its farm sign-up during the winter, sending all the required statistics to the State War Board. Then they really got busy.

First, they listed each farm with its vital statistics such as acreage, age of the farmer, and the hands available. After asking a committee of local farmers what was a "full load" on dry land and irrigated farms, they listed each as being short on labor, having enough, or more than enough.

Next, they asked all the "not enough" and "more than enough" to stop by the War Board. Those who had more than enough were eager to help neighboring farmers, thereby putting themselves on a "full-load" status. Within ten days their sons and hired hands got signed statements from other farmers that they would be employed. A member of the War Board happened to belong also to the local draft board; it was thus easy to guarantee that the workers who signed up to carry a full-time load would continue to be available in the county.

Montezuma County farmers now know just how many U. S. Crop Corps recruits must be brought in from outside. Relieved of uncertainty, they are stretching themselves to the absolute limit, especially on the beans, which are a major crop in their county.

The ultimate goal would be to have each USDA worker a reliable source of local information on food in wartime, and that means knowing the essential facts about black markets, price and rationing regulations and why there are shortages of first one thing and another, nutrition, food conservation, victory gardens, what's safe to can without a pressure cooker, plans for a home food dryer, where to sign up for the Women's Land Army or other divisions of the U. S. Crop Corps, as well as the primary facts about the food production goals and the unending campaign to help the farmers meet them.

Department people

Hazel L. Litzenberger, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Bozeman, Mont., suggests that Department memoranda could be clearer, more concise. The average employee who strives to carry out instructions, she says, is confused.

One out of seven

One out of seven USDA men and women—9,250 out of some 68,000 employees, excluding temporary ones—from Washington and the field had joined the armed services by April 12.

Ninety and ten

On May 4, Dr. Bennett, SCS chief, received a War Savings Bond Flag and an Honor List Certificate for SCS employees, more than 90 percent of whom are putting over 10 percent in war bonds. SCS is the first large USDA agency to reach the 90 and 10 goal, though several smaller units—FCIC, OES, OLUC, Budget and Finance, and Personnel—have done so.

The WFA has appointed Durham Jones as chief wool appraiser.

From "High Pastures," in the town of Victory, Vt., a delightful letter came to Secretary Wickard:

I am one of a great many who are attempting to furnish food for the people of America during this crisis. I am a farmer up in Vermont. I own a greystone front farm, one of the more upright kind, and I have put up a picture molding along the top, where I hang my farm tools when I come in at night. I am 69 years old and I am milking 13 cows alone, as my hired man that I was paying $18 a week, and found, left me last May, and my wife and I did the haying alone . . .

George, my former help, writes me that he is engaged in a munition plant in New Jersey . . . I am getting a little discouraged, as the work of milking is getting hard on my old hands. I well know that you fellows are milking a herd of 130,000,000 . . .

Why don't you come and break bread with us for Tranksgiving? We observe July 30 each year since the date has been made optional. I feel very certain that you would enjoy our scenery and weather. They are the same as they were when I bought the farm. Nothing has been done as yet about either of them. I have just spoken of breaking bread; excuse me, we will have sliced bread instead.

Michael Sofchak, formerly with the Personnel Division of FCA, and now in the service, wrote to the division recently:

"You know I've been a mighty lucky guy the past recent months . . . Regarding my injuries, well, I was cut up by a bayonet on both hands and left wrist. The wounds have healed perfectly."

"Ten horses of hay farm"

American troop garrisons in Iceland are speeding electrification of that country, Jakob Gislason, Director of Iceland's State Electricity Control, recently told REA officials at St. Louis. Gislason is in the United States to purchase electric-generating equipment and observe American methods of power distribution. Mr. Gislason was especially interested in electric hay drying.

Hay not only serves as an important feed crop in Iceland but is also a common measure of land. As, for example, a "ten horses of hay farm" or a "seven horses of hay farm."

Is this a record?

C. E. Bracey, Office of Information, retired recently after 50 years, 7 months, of service in the Department. For the past 21 years he had been in charge of the Addressing, Duplicating, and Mailing Section.

Watch for these

Fats in Wartime Meals (AWI-34).—The art of getting the most out of fats helps save essential war materials. *Prevention and Control of Alfalfa Weevil* (F. B. 1930).—We need this forage crop for livestock, not for weevils; early cutting of infested stands starves out the feeding larvae. *Soybean Diseases and Their Control* (F. B. 1937).—Fighting against diseases is one way to win the battle for beans and more beans. *Home Storage of Vegetables and Fruits* (F. B. 1939).—We'll soon be getting ready to take care of the produce from our Victory Gardens.

Program notes

War Food Administration

The War Food Administration was thus officially designated by President Roosevelt in an Executive order of April 19, amending that of March 26. The WFA combines, as originally stated, the Food Production Administration (except for Farm Credit Administration), the Food Distribution Administration, the Commodity Credit Corporation, and the Extension Service.

The President specified that the Secretary and the Administrator, to the extent necessary to enable them to perform their respective duties and functions, shall each have authority to exercise any and all of the powers vested in the other by statute or otherwise. In other words, Mr. Davis can call upon any USDA agency in carrying out the programs of the War Food Administration; and the WFA continues as an integral part of the Department of Agriculture.

Secretary Wickard continues as chairman, and Mr. Davis becomes a member, of the inter-departmental committee which is to advise the War Food Administrator. The Administrator is also alternate American representative (with Mr. Wickard) on the Combined Food Board of the United States and Great Britain.

Consumers

Price Administrator Prentiss Brown on April 30 outlined a 4-point program to (1) extend price control to every important commodity, (2) roll back prices which have got out of hand (meats, fresh and canned vegetables, coffee, and others), (3) establish specific dollars-and-cents prices for foods and print small price lists which every housewife can put in her handbag, and (4) bring the chiseler, racketeer, and black market operator to justice. USDA workers will eagerly cooperate with the OPA.

Price ceilings on retail beef, veal, lamb, and mutton, announced by OPA April 24, become effective May 17.

The 150,000 pressure cookers to be made this year will be rationed by County Farm Rationing Committees or subcommittees in urban areas. Groups will have preference over individuals. Steam pressure canning is the only method the Department recommends all over the country for nonacid foods such as beans, peas, corn, greens, asparagus, and meat. The boiling water-bath method is all right for acid things like fruits, tomatoes, rhubarb, and pickled beets. However, because soil conditions vary, some State agricultural colleges approve other methods.

So housewives can do more canning and preserving this summer, the WFA increased quotas of black and white pepper, cinnamon, and allspice. But we must share spices with the other United Nations. The Combined Food Board allocated cinnamon, mace, nutmeg, and pimiento among the Allies, and the FDA Spice Industry Food Advisory Committee will continue conserving U. S. supplies of black pepper and other imported spices.

While a large part of soya products—high protein foods that may be substituted for meat—is needed for war purposes, the quantity for civilians will be many times as large in 1943 as last year. Production should pass a billion pounds by midsummer.

A new publication, Take Care of the Wool You Have, is available free from the Department.

There should be enough potatoes next year. The WFA will control shipment of the remaining Maine potatoes. This helps Government agencies get needed supplies and provides seed for farmers to meet increased 1943 goals.

Farmers

At April's end, War Food Administrator Davis made a final urgent plea to all farmers (and all field employees of the War Food Administration) to increase production to the very utmost. "We ask farmers, on their part, in the days that remain of spring planting, to take an extra degree of chance this year for their country."

Fencing and peanut pickers are no longer rationed; peanut pickers will continue to be distributed by the three peanut associations; milking machines, grain and forage blowers, and portable and stationary elevators were removed from quotas. Present WPB regulations allow purchase of fencing not exceeding $10 at a time, or 4,000 pounds in 3 months. A publication, A Wartime Dairy Barn, and a folder, Wooden Fences and Gates,

are available free from the Department, Washington.

The OPA listed ceilings on live poultry for farms adjacent to representative cities. The ceilings on sales by country growers to country shippers or wholesalers buying at the farm are the same as the maximum live poultry price for the nearest city, town, or village.

The WFA changed the fertilizer order to make more available for producing vital war crops; fertilizer was rationed in Puerto Rico.

The Department reported on preventable causes of chick deaths; and on new livestock feeding research.

The WFA ordered domestic wool not sold by producers before April 25 to be bought and sold only by CCC (with certain exceptions).

WFA and OPA said that to stabilize cotton prices, CCC stocks will be sold at 21.38 cents for Middling $^{15}/_{16}$ inch; CCC loans on long staple will be called; and permanent maximum prices for raw cotton will be set.

CCC will buy No. 2 beans, the price to be 15 cents below that announced April 8 for No. 1. War Food Administrator Davis called upon all dry edible bean growers to market their remaining 1942 crop supplies as soon as possible. They are urgently needed now for the Allied armies, especially the Russian.

The WFA urged that sugar-beet growers increase plantings above the March report. Information from War Boards show plantings in some areas may be *below* the March "intentions."

The CCC bought some Canadian wheat for feed.

Farm labor

Administrator Davis is carrying forward the farm labor program substantially along the lines already announced (*USDA*, March 12). Following passage of a bill appropriating $26,100,000, Mr. Davis announced that Lt. Col. Lewis Taylor, deputy food administrator, will have charge of the program, with the help of M. L.Wilson, Director of Extension, and Col. Philip G. Bruton.

Director Wilson will be responsible for mobilizing farm labor for use within each State and placing all workers on farms in line with local needs. Colonel Bruton will use facilities and personnel of the Farm Security Administration in providing transportation and housing for foreign workers and domestic workers moved from one State to another. (In appropriating funds for this purpose, Congress provided that the county agent must approve transfer of domestic workers from his county to another.) By the end of 1943, Mr. Davis estimated, 3,000,000 farm workers will have been deferred from the draft.

The goal remains the same: A U. S. Crop Corps of 3,500,000, including the Women's Land Army, the High School Victory Corps, 65,000 workers imported from Mexico, the Bahamas, and Jamaica, and hundreds of thousands of workers mobilized locally—men, women, and young people—from the cities and towns for work on the farm and in food processing plants.

Progress is reported in the Department's oldest war. Containers or "bombs" filled with insecticides mixed by the aerosol, or fine fog, method are protecting fighting men in Africa, the Pacific, and elsewhere from mosquitos, flies, and other insects. Just one puff containing 1 milligram of pyrethrins (a particle smaller than a mustard seed), applied by the aerosol method, will kill every yellow fever mosquito in 1,000 cubic feet of space in 5 minutes. ARA workers at Beltsville can't use the aerosol in a room where other insect experiments are going on, or even in the next room—it kills insects too easily.

Good earth

At a meeting of Long Island farmers, arranged by two county agents, Charles Abbey, of the U. S. Employment Service, reported that 125 Chinese, including shipwrecked sailors, restaurant workers, and "laundlymen," had registered in New York City for farm work. Most of them had a farm background in China. The New York farmers agreed they sounded like promising recruits.

To willing Mexican workers, who are reported arriving out West at the rate of more than 1,000 a week, President Roosevelt paid tribute at his meeting with President Ávila Camacho last month. (These workers don't just arrive, by the way; they are brought in by the Farm Security Administration.)

One thousand soldiers who will visit factories in Illinois this month, to be impressed with the fact that rifles don't just happen, will also visit farms, where food doesn't just happen either. Army officers in charge will get in touch with War Board chairmen in various towns.

Industry

Fats will be allotted for bakeries April–June in quantity equal to consumption in same quarter of 1942; WFA exempted from quota restrictions the manufacturers of paints, varnishes, linoleum, and similar fabrics for the armed forces and United Nations. (WFA is getting data on oils in war activities.)

The WFA will offer to buy bulk kraut in packers' hands at the end of the marketing season.

The FDA Breakfast Cereals Industry Advisory Committee planned advertising on the nutritious value of cereals to urge their use to supplement scarcer foods.

Control of deliveries and use of molasses was transferred from WPB to WFA.

The FDA, BAE, and the OPA Food Rationing Division simplified reports required from dairy plants; WFA announced tentative new standards for American cheese.

"Country butter"

"Don't bother with the stamps. This is just between you and me."

There is the black market in meat, butter, or any other rationed commodity in town or country. (Farm folks, like others, must collect stamps, stay under ceilings.)

USDA

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USDA May 29, 1943

USDA abroad

Since those listed in the January 5 and 20 issues, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations reports many others have gone or are about to go abroad on errands concerned with our own immediate war requirements, or to assist our Allies in work of mutual benefit.

Torpedo boats

Some of the errands are confidential; others can be told now. For example, Dr. Arthur Bevan, Forest Service, heads a party of several foresters who have gone to Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua to study tropical timber for wartime uses. Mahogany is used in war planes, torpedo and landing boats, and gliders. Balsa—the lightest wood known—is useful in pontoons, floats and life preservers. Balsa may replace cork, formerly imported. Lignum vitae, which is heavy, hard, and tough, is the best material for the bearings of small vessels. Light tropical woods may be used in crates and boxes for food supplies. Termite-resistant woods may substitute for steel and concrete in bridges and culverts on the strategic Pan American Highway being built through Central America.

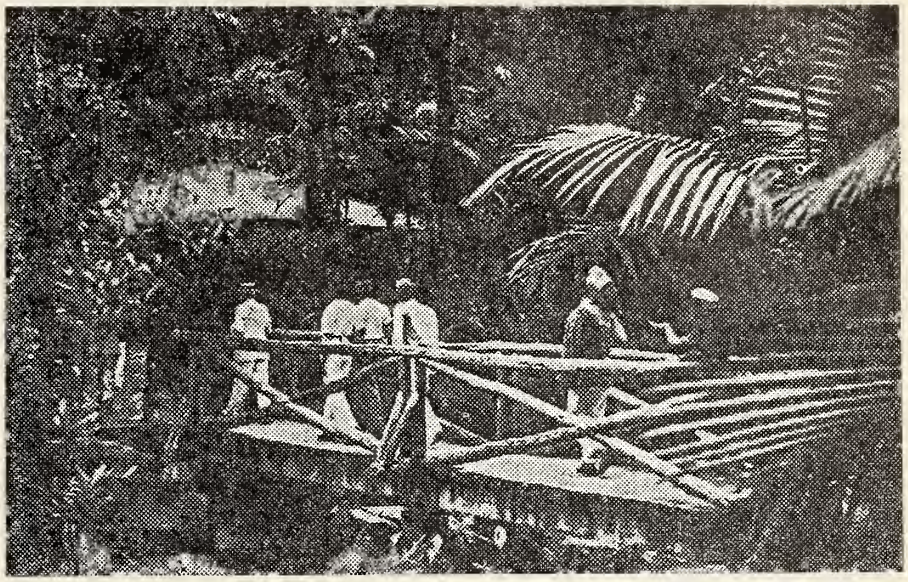
All Forest Service activities in tropical America are now combined under a director of tropical forestry, Arthur T. Upson, with headquarters at Rio Piedras, P. R. Mr. Upson, who comes from the WPB Lumber and Lumber Products Branch, will supervise the Caribbean National Forest, the Tropical Forest Experiment Station, and the Latin American Forest Resources Project (in cooperation with the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs).

England

Ray E. Kueneman, of the Food Distribution Administration, has gone to England to join USDA men at work there.

China

From China, Dr. W. C. Lowdermilk of the Soil Conservation Service recently wrote his chief, Hugh H. Bennett, that the migration of the Chinese toward the more steeply sloping interior of the Republic, as the Japanese invaded the coastal areas, has aggravated her ancient problem of soil erosion. Famine is China's enemy along with the Japanese; the productivity of her soil is a matter of utmost concern.



LA MINA *recreation area in the Luquillo unit, Caribbean National Forest, Puerto Rico. This unit was established in 1903. Forests here are like those of our neighbors in other American republics.*

Brazil

T. Lynn Smith, rural sociologist in auxiliary service of the State Department, returned in March from work in Brazil. Carl O. Grassl, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, goes to Belem, Brazil, for rubber work. He will visit other South American republics. H. H. Bartlett, of the same bureau, will visit Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, and Venezuela on rubber work. H. P. Moffett of the Food Administration, who will also go to Peru and Argentina, visits Brazil on business connected with our food production program.

Stephen A. Crump of the Commodity Credit Corporation is in Brazil on a mission concerned with agricultural commodities. Elmer L. Livaudais, and Harry Prochet, of CCC, are in Rio de Janeiro and Fred W. Ehrhardt in Santos on similar business.

Peru

Andrew Bohart, Commodity Credit Corporation, is in Lima working on agricultural commodities; H. W. Albert is agricultural adviser, under the State Department. The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations has sent William E. Martin to the Experiment Station at Tingo Maria.

Chile

Andrew White, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, is in Santiago working on guayule.

Colombia

Nicholas G. Barbella, associate biochemist in the Bureau of Animal Industry, has joined the staff of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and will be sent to Bogota. In our Department, most of his work dealt with factors that affect the flavor of meat and with dehydration.

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Ecuador

Dr. Ross E. Moore, assistant director of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, goes to Ecuador to meet with the board of directors of the Ecuador Development Corporation to consider the development of strategic materials such as rubber, wild cinchona bark, etc. through trading posts.

Madagascar

A. T. Semple has been selected as agricultural member of a Board of Economic Warfare mission to the large, strategic island of Madagascar, in the Indian Ocean. In the Bureau of Animal Industry, Mr. Semple specialized in pasture management, and in the Soil Conservation Service he was head of the pasture section of the Division of Agronomy.

Mexico

Eighteen men of the Agricultural Research Administration in recent months have gone to Mexico. From the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, Richard E. Baker and Richard W. Hummer are working on guayule rubber, while other varieties of rubber production engage the attention of Fred A. Abegg, Elbert M. Long, Robert E. Flores, Paul R. Miller, Leroy Powers, E. C. Stakman, Stephen White, Joseph LeBeau, and Marion M. Striker. The last two men will also go to Central American countries. From the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, A. C. Baker and W. E. Stone are working on the fruitfly, Andrew J. Chapman on the bollworm, Robert E. McDonald, pink bollworm, and James F. Martin, wheat rust. John W. Balock and John G. Shaw are there for work in entomology.

Clinton A. Mogen, Lloyd A. Rickel, and Mortimer R. Lewis of the Forest Service have been assigned to forestry work in Mexico while the following on forestry missions will work in other countries: Jose Narroro, Puerto Rico, Central and South America; Arthur Bevan, Clarence A. Merker, Lawrence Teesdale and William R. Barbour, who will also visit Central and South America; James E. Myer, who goes to Central American republics and Colombia, Ecuador and Peru; and John A. Scholten, who visits El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Ecuador and Peru.

The Food Administration has sent Joseph E. Eltsner to work on food distribution problems, and Milton A. Giavanni, whose mission is food stockpiles.

Caribbean

From the Food Administration, Soloman S. Macks, Arthur S. Mason, and Francis A. Ford have recently gone to the Dominican Republic on lend-lease missions. George Hoffman of Food Distribution, whose errand is accounting, will work in the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Puerto Rico. William F. Funchess visits the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on a lend-lease assignment and John H. Nichols works on lend-lease in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Olin W. Salisbury visits the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico. His assignment is agricultural commodities.

Food Administration men recently stationed in Puerto Rico in connection with the Caribbean food program include James E. Stupplebean, Wesley Green, and C. Donald Schoolcraft. H. L. Hunter is working on food stockpiles, while Claude M. Chilson, formerly with the Department's Office of Personnel, goes to San Juan to head the division of administrative services. Cedric McKenzie is in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on lend-lease business. The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations has sent William C. Cooper to Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, to work on rotenone, basic insecticide material.

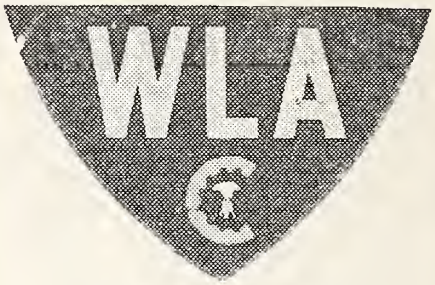
Central America

Charles Bennett, cotton-gin expert, has been assigned to work in Nicaragua. E. C. Higbee is returning to that country as agriculturist, after making rotenone studies in Peru.

James M. Watkins has joined the staff of the Experiment Station in El Salvador; Frederick L. Wellman is plant pathologist. Frank C. Morris, USDA engineer, is architect for the stations in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

From the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Charles C. Plummer goes to work on the fruitfly in El Salvador and Guatemala.

William Popenoe is collaborator at the experiment station at Tela, Honduras. From the Bureau of Dairy Industry, Ralph E. Hodgson and Arthur Dahlberg will visit Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Costa Rica. From the Bureau of Animal Industry, A. O. Rhoad goes to San Jose, Costa Rica, for work in the livestock field. Julius Matz, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Chemistry, goes to Costa Rica for work on rubber. He will also visit Colombia.



THE *WLA cap insignia with white letters on a red background signifies a full-time worker; with the colors reversed, seasonal workers.*

What they can do

Even inexperienced women can learn to prepare soil, plant seed, weed, and hoe gardens. They can dust and spray, pick and pack. On commercial truck farms they can learn harvesting, washing, grading, and packing. On poultry farms, they can feed and water the birds, clean poultry houses, and gather, candle, crate, and grade eggs. Women can run milking machines, separators, and coolers on dairy farms, mix feeds, make butter, and drive trucks. Feeding and watering livestock are chores many women can do. In orchards and vineyards, women can drive spray trucks, help prune trees and vines, pick and grade, pack and truck fruit to market. In the fields, they can handle harrows, disks, fertilizer spreaders, mowing machines, rakes, and hay loaders. But the Women's Land Army can also give valuable service in farm homes. They can do the housework and mind the children, letting the farm wife help in the fields.

WLA's in other countries

Other United Nations have organized "womanpower" for work on farms, too. The British Women's Land Army was started in January 1939. British women between 20 and 40 (Britain registered women between 18 and 45), when called up, if not doing work of national importance, are given the choice of several vital war activities, among them the WLA. Women also volunteer. Canada, in 1941, grouped

volunteer women farm workers into brigades: Farmerette Brigade, students 16 years and older, and school teachers; Children's Brigade, under 16 years; Women's Land Brigade, for year-round work; Holiday Service Brigade, part-time workers; Farm Girls' Brigade, young farm women not in school and up to 26 years. The Canadian Government establishes Women's Land Brigade camps where needed. In Australia, the Women's Land Army numbered some 1,500 in October 1942, when compulsory registration of women began. By the end of the year, it had 1,900.

The USDA Graduate School summer session of 8 weeks begins May 31 to June 5 (in Washington, Extension 5943). Some 30 courses are offered, including personnel administration, general administration, fiscal procedures, statistics, transportation and traffic, meteorology, language aids, machine operation, typing, and shorthand.

Program notes

War Food Administration

War Food Administrator Davis reported May 6 to James F. Byrnes, Director of Economic Stabilization, on farm labor, equipment, and supplies for meeting 1943 goals.

Current appraisal of farm labor indicates there is sufficient to produce and harvest crops to meet the goals, Mr. Davis said, providing, first, that the available labor is willing to work on farms, and, second, that the farmers are willing to use this type of inexperienced but valuable labor. If these responsibilities are met, the actual supply should be adequate.

Steps have been taken to improve the farm-machinery situation. The WPB agreed to an increase in farm-machinery production in 1943 from 23 percent of the 1940 level to 40 percent, and farm-machinery parts have been increased 160 percent of the average production during 1940 and 1941. It is planned to manufacture 9,530 additional combines, 4,460 corn pickers, and 2,000 pick-up balers for this fall. The WFA asked the WPB to authorize, for 1944, 80 percent of the 1940 production of farm implements and place no limit on the manufacture of parts.

Control over manufacture and use of fertilizer assures 100 percent requirements for essential war crops and 75 percent of normal needs for other crops.

Farmers

In his first talk to farmers, April 29, War Food Administrator Davis said over the Farm and Home Hour: "We ask farmers to take two immediate steps. One is to plant to the limit on all the needed crops, including feed and hay crops. The other is to slow down the rate of increase in hog production by breeding for a 1943 fall farrow not more than 15 percent bigger than the 1942 fall farrow."

The WFA and the Dairy Industry Committee urged farmers to maintain or increase milk production during the rest of the year. However, WFA advised poultrymen not to further increase commercial broiler production. Production this year has increased about 35 percent over 1942.

Under revised farm-machinery rationing, State War Boards may cancel county quotas and county farm rationing committees may set the expiration date of purchase certificates betwen 10 to 60 days after issuing them, to speed movement of machinery to farms. Other changes were made.

So farmers may share equally supplies of organic nitrogen, fertilizer manufacturers may not get these materials for use in mixed fertilizer, without approval of the Food Production Director.

The Department called attention to the "wilting" method of making grass silage without using molasses or acid preservatives, now scarce and expensive. This method requires drying to a lower moisture content. Directions may be had from the Bureau of Dairy Industry, Washington.

The CCC will buy from farmers eight types of pasture and winter legume seeds for planting next fall and for increased production of forage crops next year. Basic prices are set for seed meeting specified standards.

The WFA limited purchases and deliveries of corn, to improve distribution among manufacturers, feed mixers, and feeders. Producers with loans on 1938, 1939, 1940, and 1941 corn must redeem it or deliver it to the CCC by July 1.

The WFA limited the use of the 2,700,000 pounds of pyrethrum insecticides allotted for agriculture in 1943 for protection of specified crops and animals.

Hop growers in Oregon, California, Washington, and Idaho may market their uncertificated old stocks, to supplement the 1942 production of some 35,000,000 pounds. This action releases about 3,000,000 pounds.

Consumers

On May 10, in some 150 cities, OPA community-wide price ceilings on many food products — including bread, eggs, butter, sugar, cereals, flour, poultry, packaged cheese, and fresh, evaporated, and condensed milk—became effective. Additional groups of commodities were to be put under the "community maximums" until all major foods are covered.

Another step in stabilizing food prices will be effective June 1, when retail prices of beef, veal, pork, lamb, mutton, coffee, and butter will be reduced approximately 10 percent from the present levels. This means an average reduction for the consumer of 3 cents a pound for beef and veal, 4 cents for pork, 4 or 5 cents for butter, and 3 cents for coffee, and applies only to rationed products. The meat price reductions are in addition to those effective May 17 (*USDA*, May 15).

USDA employees can learn the Nation-wide and community price ceilings for foods and can help their neighbors learn them. It's part of the fight against inflation and black markets.

OPA now allows housewives to use two stamps, each good for five pounds of sugar, from War Ration Book No. 1, for home canning and preserving. Families needing more than this may apply to local rationing boards for 15 pounds more per person. The top limit is 25 pounds.

To avoid shortage of butter and cheese for civilians during months of low production next winter, 50 percent of the butter and 70 percent of the cheese production are being held for Government purchase during May, June, and July (high production months).

Industry

Director of Economic Stabilization Byrnes on May 11 announced policies for carrying out War Labor Board recommendations on wages paid by processors of food and feed. These policies, which tie in with the President's "hold the line" order of April 8, aim to prevent perishable-food losses which might occur if processors are unable to get enough seasonal workers.

A WFA campaign for greater salvage and reuse of fresh fruit and vegetable containers is under way. Demand for the containers is greater, and much lumber, nails, and wire used in them is needed for the war.

The Meat Canning Industry Food Advisory Committee reported that new, improved substitutes for tin are being developed. The latest are electrolytic and bonderized plate for shipping canned meat overseas.

Secretary Wickard announced that apple sirup, made from waste and off-grade fruit, is now produced commercially on a large scale. Five plants produced over 3,000,000 pounds of the sirup from the 1942 apple crop, using a BAIC method . . . The FDA Pectin Industry Food Advisory Committee said the industry expects 1943 production to be sufficient. Pectin (an apple and citrus byproduct) is used by the baking, candy, and food-dehydration industries, and in medicines, as well as by home jelly makers.

The ARA announced a new, improved method for dehydrating American Cheddar cheese for lend-lease and other uses.

Mixed feed manufacturers who ship from surplus-producing to eastern and southeastern States are eligible for CCC price adjustments between market and ceiling prices of corn.

CCC, with approval of the WPB, will offer for sale first-cut cotton linters not needed by the Government for chemical use.

We're still in the scrap. Though more than 5,000,000 tons of scrap iron were collected from farms last year, much more is needed this year for guns, planes, tanks, farm machinery, and other war materials. State and County War Boards are again cooperating with the WPB Salvage Division to collect every piece of heavy scrap iron in rural areas.

Department people

Roy F. Hendrickson, Director of the Food Distribution Administration, is now WFA Deputy Administrator in charge of marketing services, distribution programs, and food procurement. J. B. Hutson, President of the Commodity Credit Corporation, is WFA Associate Administrator, supervising food production. Mr. Hendrickson and Mr. Hutson continue as respective heads of FDA and CCC.

M. Lee Marshall, another new WFA Deputy Administrator, has charge of supplies, machinery, materials, and facilities for producing and processing food. Mr. Marshall, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Continental Baking Company, comes from the WPB, where he was food consultant. He will head a WFA Office of Materials and Facilities, combining the work of the OAWR Material Control Branch, FDA Facilities Branch, FPA Production Supplies Programs Branch, and Farm Service and Supply Branch, and CCC Priority Services Group.

Information changes

Morse Salisbury, Director of Information, has gone to the War Food Administration as deputy director in charge of information. Keith Himebaugh is now acting director of Department Information, and Duncan Wall, assistant director, takes responsibility for publications and graphics. J. Clyde Marquis, head of OFAR information, is retiring. Louis C. Nolan is acting in charge.

"Free pinches"

G. L. Tiebout, Extension horticulturist in Louisiana, is snowed under this spring by an avalanche of requests from victory gardeners in the State for "free pinches" of seed. A pinch varies with the kind of seed, but is enough to supply an average family with a particular vegetable. Mr. T., as his fellow workers call him, has had 50 years of gardening experience.

The 72 REA veterans of World War I who moved to St. Louis have organized the REA War Veterans Association. REA employees leaving for the service are given a farewell party and made honorary members of the association, which helps the service men and their families when need arises.

Ninety and ten club

Five more Department agencies have joined the 90 and 10 club (*USDA*, May 15). In Extension, Experiment Stations, Soil Conservation Service, Commodity Credit Corporation, and Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 90 percent or more of the employees put 10 percent or more of their salaries into war bonds.

Ruth D. Donald, a AAA stenographer in Washington, spent many Sundays this spring working on nearby farms. One week end last month she and 30 other city people shucked 250 bushels of corn and tied 500 bundles of fodder, in about 5 hours, on a farm in Fairfax County, Va.

Toothaches, etc.

Reba Craven, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, pointing out the practical difficulty in getting necessary errands done as a result of the long work-days and weeks, suggests that each Federal department, one day a week, begin its work at 12 or 1 p. m., working on through the evening for the regular 8-hour day, as many department stores and other business houses do. This plan would give Government workers four hours a week when stores, doctors', and dentists' offices are open, and cut down on the flood of little leave slips.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA June 12, 1943

Field-hand notes

The best medicine for Washingtonitis is a trip to "the field," otherwise known as the United States of America. On a farm-labor assignment, *USDA's* editor saw scores of Department workers in several agencies and they strengthened his belief that field workers spend little time worrying about reorganizations and shifts, and hammer away at getting the job done regardless.

THROUGHOUT *the country, youths like these are helping harvest crops needed for us and our Allies. Three hundred college students, in Spartanburg County, S. C., picked 15,000 pounds of cotton in a day.*

Democracy in action

In the field you can see Washington catchwords translated into action. At Des Moines, Iowa, members of a County War Board gladly put in a long evening with local draft board men working out the details of draft deferment for farm boys. (Only sinister note: They're beginning to adopt Washington words like "directive.") The problem in all States is how to set at ease the minds of draft-age boys staying on the farm. More Americans need to understand that farming is as essential as fighting, and here USDA employees can help in their communities.

In the field, folks work with whatever local groups can best help. For instance, County Agent Ross Huntsinger, Franklin County, Iowa, worked with the local civilian defense council in canvassing townspeople for work this summer on farms, in canneries, or, for the womenfolk, in the farm homes helping to mind children and do housework, so experienced farm women can work in the field. In the Middle West, this may be one of the less glamorous but most useful jobs of the Women's Land Army (*USDA*, May 1). (Scriptural reference: Martha and Mary.)

Prediction: The Extension Service (charged by Congress with farm labor) will do a great job. History will also recognize the contribution of USDA workers in cooperating agencies. The farm plan work sheets compiled by USDA War Boards, with statistics showing how much help the farmers are going to need, will rank in some localities at least among the finest accomplishments in Department history. The workers, moved with their families from unproductive farms, trained, and placed on farms where they are needed by the Farm Security Administration, add their tally to the score. So do the "short cuts" in farm work developed by USDA scientists and the labor-saving effects of farming practices designed by the Soil Conservation Service. Even the white-collar boys have their uses: A report by "Dutch" Elder, Extension editor in Iowa, of a quick way to clean the cream separator and milking machine, printed in a national farm magazine, saves enough hours of farm labor, maybe, to pay Dutch's salary.

Counting sheep

Some count sheep to go to sleep, but it's a war job in the Forest Service. Dan Gilbert, district ranger at Steamboat Springs, Colo., was about to take off for the high ranges where men with "tallywhackers" check off the number of sheep allotted for grazing. Gilbert will use high-school boys this year to mend fences, fix telephone wires, etc., up near the Continental Divide, and was starting early in order to train them.

The Routt County (Colo.) FSA supervisor, Reynold W. Hoeglund, was busy with a bus load of Indians brought in to herd sheep. All were placed but one, no doubt named Lo, who stood forlornly in the hotel doorway, speaking neither English nor Spanish, just Indian.

Each Decoration Day, Assistant Ranger Jackson finds a moment to

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ride by the lonely graves of three Mexican sheep herders murdered in the mountains years ago . . . With the help of his wife in managing the mules, Mr. Jackson recently packed up the timber and other materials for a new fire tower.

In Colorado, women are more tractor minded than in the Midwest. Extension Editor Glenn Kinghorn discovered a tractor school last spring where a score of farm women learned as much, or more, than their husbands about tractors. (So the women say; there wasn't time to interview the men.) . . . A Larimer County farmer, at the War Board to apply for rubber tires for his tractors, wrote as his reason, "The lugs shake up my wife unmercifully."

Colorado farm labor, actual and potential, is cosmopolitan: "Arkies," "Okies," Japs, perhaps war prisoners, convicts, conscientious objectors, Indians, and, above all, our friends from Mexico for the beets. In Denver, Regional FSA Director Brannan, in charge of trainload after trainload, learned of 100 Mexicans arriving after six days and nights in the day coach. They had a few minutes in Denver and what they most needed, he figured, was a walk. Mr. Vanderpool, from Brannan's office, led the parade, holding up traffic as they marched into a drug store and ordered cokes, razor blades, and picture postcards to send home. This won't show on anybody's expense account.

Kansas knows

Kansas knows what's going on. Under the personal leadership of Governor Schoeppel, a series of district meetings on farm labor has aroused the State. "We have a lot of mouths to feed," District Extension Agent Blecha tells people. Says Farmer Bert Culp, chairman of the Governor's Farm Labor Commission, "If a town boy can drive his dad's car 80 miles an hour, he can drive my tractor 4 miles an hour." Mr. Culp worked 15 college and school youngsters last summer, including a former Senate page, got good work from them, and so tells his fellow farmers. Combined fun and training: Pictures of the boys in action, on the farm, shown after supper in the farmhouse. He's expecting a new lot this year.

Kansas coordinates as a matter of course. In the spring, Miss Smurthwaite, home-demonstration leader at the college in Manhattan, called meetings of all the Extension home-demonstration agents, Farm Security Administration home supervisors, and home-economics teachers in the high schools. As a result, about every pressure cooker in Kansas will be working under pressure morning, noon, and night. Town women will help farm women can on shares. A town woman with a cooker, unable to leave because of small children, will invite farm women to can on shares in her kitchen.

The best job of coordination in Kansas is between the Extension Service and the Farm Labor Commission, which have merged and meshed their activities in a way which demonstrates good thinking and good feeling.

Alphabetical agencies

Reports reach us of confusion about alphabets for Department agencies (the editors get confused, too). Here are those most commonly used:

AAA — Agricultural Adjustment Agency.
ARA—Agricultural Research Administration.
BAE—Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
BAI—Bureau of Animal Industry.
BAIC—Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry.
BDI—Bureau of Dairy Industry.
BEPQ—Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.
BHNHE—Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.
BPISAE—Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering.
BRC—Beltsville Research Center.
CCC—Commodity Credit Corporation.
FCA—Farm Credit Administration.
FCIC—Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.
FDA—Food Distribution Administration.
FPA—Food Production Administration.
FSA—Farm Security Administration.
OAWR—Office of Agricultural War Relations.
OBF—Office of Budget and Finance.
OES—Office of Experiment Stations.
OFAR—Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.
OPO—Office of Plant and Operations.
REA—Rural Electrification Administration.
SCS—Soil Conservation Service.
WFA—War Food Administration.

Program notes

Farm labor

Lt. Col. J. L. Taylor, in charge of WFA Farm Labor, said several thousand Jamaicans had arrived to work on farms in Northern and Eastern States... The WFA and Public Health Service said farm workers brought from foreign countries are given strict health examinations. . . War Food Administrator Davis and WMC Chairman McNutt advocated leaves of absence for industrial workers living on small farms, to plant and harvest crops.

Farmers

WFA on May 14 reported a serious shortage of gasoline for tractors in Eastern States, though the Petroleum Administrator for War had given the farmers equal preference with the Army and Navy for gasoline and oil for tractors, and OPA on May 20 banned pleasure driving . . . Large farm users of gasoline (960 gallons or more a month) were issued deposit certificate- instead of bulk ration coupons. The users may write checks against the ration bank account.

Cotton growers in flooded areas were told the AAA program provides for release of all or part of the acreage allotment for flooded farms, for apportionment to other farms. The transferred allotments are used only by operators and tenants from the flooded farms and will not interfere with reaching war-crop goals.

WPB extended an AA-2 preference rating for delivery to farmers of 500,000,000 board feet of lumber during June–September, on purchase certificates. The lumber is for repair and construction (except farm dwellings).

Considerable ammonium nitrate is being allocated to specific areas, to help farmers produce more food and feed, and will be available from regular dealers.

Boll weevils may seriously damage cotton in States from Virginia to Texas if the weather in June and July is cloudy and wet. Circular E-569, Control of Cotton Insects, is available from the USDA, Washington.

Farmers will probably have enough rope and twine for 1943 harvests,

though the WFA urged them to conserve supplies.

Civilians

OPA district offices issued ceiling prices, effective May 17, for canned peas, corn, tomatoes and juices, and green, wax, and snap beans; peaches, pears, pineapple, and fruit cocktail. The prices apply in retail stores in 130 metropolitan centers.

Civilians will get more canned fruits and vegetables from the 1943 pack than was expected. The WFA reduced quantities canners must set aside for Government needs by 7 million cases of fruits and 23 million cases of vegetables.

OPA withdrew compulsory grade labeling of 1943 canned fruits and vegetables, and substituted plans to protect consumers against price increases through up-grading. Canners must keep on using USDA grades and canners' maximum prices will continue to be set by grade. Canners and wholesalers must show on invoices the grade of product sold. Retail community dollars-and-cents ceilings will list canned goods by grades.

OPA said home-canned fruits and vegetables for sale have a "point price" of eight points a quart . . . Allocation of materials for 125,000 more pressure cookers for home canning brings the total available this year to about 275,000. Rationing of cookers is handled through County War Boards and County Farm Rationing Committees . . . Stamps 15 and 16 in Ration Book 1 are each good for five pounds of sugar for home canning . . . The WFA said we'd probably get about the same quantity of sugar during 1943 as we're getting now. The prospective supply was allocated: 1,153,000 tons for the armed forces, lend-lease, and other exports, and 4,600,000 for civilians.

The National Research Council named a committee of physicians and other specialists to decide special dietary needs, under rationing, of invalids and people with specific diseases.

Industry

WFA asked more edible oil refiners to submit offers on hydrogenated linseed oil shortening for purchase and export under lend-lease . . . It also asked the industry to use corn oil as well as soybean oil in margarine, because of wartime demand for cottonseed oil.

WFA extended restrictions on egg storage, to insure enough shell eggs for civilians and the armed forces, and sufficient dried eggs for war needs.

WFA announced the basis for determining prices paid by processors for 1942–43 sugarcane in Puerto Rico.

WFA named three commodity committees to help administer the marketing agreement on fresh Bartlett pears, plums, and Elberta peaches grown in California.

So they said

The Army and Navy are planting hundreds of acres in Victory Gardens at training camps, hospitals, and other military areas . . . The USDA said gardeners can control earworms on sweet corn by mineral oil with pyrethrum.

The Northern Regional Research Laboratory of BAIC developed a new lignin plastic which can be made from farm wastes such as corn stalks, wheat straw, and flax shives. For many purposes it can be used as a substitute for metal.

To save valuable timber from pine-beetle damage, ARA recommended "sanitation salvage logging"—taking out trees susceptible to beetle attack. More than a billion board feet are lost each year through this pest.

Good neighbors

When some young Mexicans came to Stockton, Calif., last fall to help harvest sugar beets, Faith Craig, of the Farm Security Administration office there, received an unusual assignment. Her job was to keep up the Mexicans' morale, through education, entertainment — anything to keep them from getting too lonesome. No special funds were provided. After a big day harvesting beets, they didn't care for athletics. There was also the obstacle of language.

Seeking something that would really appeal, Miss Craig decided to start a class in English. She got two local teachers to help two nights a week. School was set up in the kitchen of a ranch bunkhouse at Roberts Island. The Mexicans, shy at first, soon were showing enthusiasm far beyond expectations, and rivalry developed over grades. "I never had a more attentive class," said one of the teachers. "It's a pleasure to teach people who try so hard."

Federal to local

Bankers know that soil erosion and depletion destroy the basic collateral of the Nation. Some years ago Oklahoma farmers employed engineers to hold erosion-control schools in each county and encouraged farmers to borrow terracing machinery.

Last year, Leon McDonald, assistant State conservationist of SCS, talked with Hugh Harrell, president of the Oklahoma bankers, who had noticed that farmers in the districts were paying off mortgages. Now the State Bankers Association gives a handsome framed certificate of award to farmers belonging to soil-conservation districts who complete their own programs of erosion control. Not just "one of those things," the certificates often hang on the parlor wall to prove that the farmer "has shown his love for the land by using it properly and establishing the necessary conservation practices, thereby maintaining the fertility and increasing the productivity of his farm."

Others might copy

The Oklahoma bankers' idea (which might interest some other States and other USDA agencies) points up an exceedingly interesting feature of the SCS program. Ten years ago, conservation work was conducted on a demonstration basis throughout complete watersheds, averaging about 25,000 acres. To encourage farmers in these demonstration areas to take part, SCS agreed to provide not only technical assistance but also some of the labor, equipment, planting stock, and other materials necessary to do a good demonstration job. The demonstrations accomplished their purpose within a few years, and as more and more farmers came to understand the advantages and "know how" of conservation farming, the amount of SCS help was reduced.

Farmers on their own

Today, almost all SCS work is carried on within the boundaries of soil-conservation districts organized and operated by farmers. These districts, under State enabling laws, usually have legal means to control erosion within the watershed, wind-erosion area, or other geographical unit in which they are established. However, the legal power of districts is not as important in their successful functioning as the cooperative planning and conduct of conservation

work by the farmers themselves. Farmers within a district, through their locally elected board of supervisors, still look to the SCS for technical advice and help, but generally speaking, they are on their own. Other agencies of government—Federal, State, and county—also assist the districts from time to time. The work of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps is missed, but the districts continue to grow.

There are now 858 soil-conservation districts under the laws of 44 States. Nearly half a billion acres are included in the 2,301,000 farms located within district boundaries. In 1937, Arkansas passed the first law allowing farmers to form districts; now all States except Missouri, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut have such laws. Delaware and Rhode Island passed their enabling acts just recently.

Department people

M. Clifford Townsend, former Food Production Director, is now special representative of War Food Administrator Davis, handling relations with State Governors and commissioners and secretaries of agriculture.

Secretary Wickard will address the Rural Life Conference in Columbia, Miss., June 14. The conference is an outgrowth of the first Thanksgiving Harvest observance in Tylertown, Miss., last October (*USDA*, September 20, 1942).

James F. Brownlee, new WFA Director of Transportation, will coordinate all transportation work of WFA agencies.

159 words a minute

Most typists use about 15 pounds of energy for each stroke, though only 13 ounces are necessary on standard typewriters and 5 on noiseless ones, Hortense Stollnitz told 1,200 stenographers and typists recently in Washington. (Probably the "hunt and hit" ones use more.) Miss Stollnitz holds the world hour record of 159.1 words a minute (the average is 60). She insists typing is easy and can be fun when the typewriter is 30 inches from the floor and the chair seat 12 inches from the typewriter base, and proper motions are used. Hands should be almost parallel to the keyboard slant and should "paw" at the keys.

Audrey Johndreau, USDA Division of Training, has designed boxes that raise typewriters to the right height. Over a hundred are already in use in the Department.

"Goofy" hinders war effort

Transportation by pack mule would seem to avoid the problem of wartime tire conservation, but Forest Ranger Lee Port of the Rogue River National Forest in Oregon knows differently. Recently he was packing his string of mules on the trail to Slickear Peak, for construction of a Forest Service lookout on Slickear. "Goofy" was nicely packed, with a box containing 25 pounds of shingle nails securely lashed on top, but as the other mules started up the trail, she decided to use some of her excess spirits in a few good bucks. Result: Ranger Port spent two hours on his hands and knees removing nails from the road, lest they get in tires of trucks bringing logs to market from the forest above. He lectured Goofy in no uncertain terms about her war responsibilities.

Suggestions from employees are taken seriously—not just filed away. Some time ago, Laura F. Warfield, BAE, suggested standardizing a form for leave records used when employees transfer to another agency. T. Roy Reid, Personnel Director, wrote Ralph H. Rogers, Assistant to the Chief, BAE: "Since this suggestion concerned a matter of Government-wide interest, it was referred to the Council of Personnel Administration for consideration . . . The Council recommended to the Civil Service Commission that a standard form be devised for the entire Government service."

Fern H. Delaney, BAIC, was runner-up in the Washington Post suggestion contest for April. She suggested that the Government set up its own bonding companies for employees required by their duties to be bonded. (This is up to Congress.)

Dr. Lyle D. Goodhue and W. N. Sullivan, of BEPQ, who discovered the aerosol method of spreading insecticides (*USDA*, May 15) did some of the work at Beltsville on Sundays. (And they didn't get overtime pay for it.)

Wood at war

Carl Hartley, BPISAE Division of Forest Pathology, author of an article, Decay of Wood in Boats, got a letter from Lt. Comdr. A. Hansen, U. S. Coast Guard:

> Permit me to compliment you on such an excellent presentation of this important matter, and I might frankly state that after having spent a lifetime of close professional association with the boat-building industry, I have never yet read such a comprehensive and helpful paper as the one you people have compiled . . . We would like very much to distribute this article to all our field inspectors, repair and maintenance bases, and other operating units, including our schools for carpenters' mates, and possibly to some of our boat-building contractors . . .
>
> We would be very pleased to be able to make some constructive criticism or suggestion for the improvement of your article, but . . . we can find no criticism of your excellent efforts, and only praise for a good job well done.

At food conference

Department people at the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture at Hot Springs, Va. (*USDA*, May 15): Delegate—Paul H. Appleby, Under Secretary; advisers—H. R. Tolley, BAE; L. A. Wheeler, OFAR; Louise Stanley, ARA; assistant secretary general—Ralph H. Allee, OFAR; press relations officer—Peter H. De Vries, BAE; secretaries—P. V. Cardon, Gove Hambidge, ARA; Philip L. Green, A. W. Palmer, Lois Bacon, OFAR; Harold A. Vogel, F. F. Elliott, Clayton Whipple, Bushrod W. Allin, Conrad Taeuber, F. L. Thomsen, BAE; Hazel K. Stiebeling, BHNHE; M. L. Nichols, SCS; Frederick V. Waugh, FDA. Forty-five USDA secretaries and stenographers went to the conference, too, to take notes on what went on.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA June 26, 1943

The Crop Corps mobilizes

Labor is being found to harvest vegetables and other early crops. With farmers getting help locally from thousands of school children, women, businessmen, and some outside workers, the U. S. Crop Corps is fast becoming a working army on the farm and in canning plants.

Strawberry crops have been saved; tons of beans, asparagus, potatoes, and other early crops have been harvested by USCC workers. Other groups helped set out tomato plants, thin beets, chop cotton, hoe grass, and weed growing crops. Thousands of extra workers were recruited in the midwestern flood area where almost everything had to be cleaned and repaired, and much of a season's planting done almost overnight before it was too late to plant. Here are a few examples:

In flood areas

In six States—Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Arkansas—in the midwestern flood area, where about 3,500,000 acres of rich cropland was flooded, a battle to get those acres back in vital food crops has been under way. At Vincennes, Ind., 325 high-school boys and girls who volunteered were let out of school June 1 to weed tomato fields. At Lincoln, Ill., 77 men with farm experience who were willing to work on flooded farms after office hours and on week ends responded to a house-to-house canvass by city businessmen. German and Italian war prisoners worked, besides U. S. troops detailed to such duty.

In Franklin and other Johnson County (Ind.) towns, a house-to-house canvass to get emergency farm workers late in May resulted in 226 persons signing up to help set tomato plants, 153 to harvest sweet corn, 186 to help with hay and wheat harvest, 222 to help pick tomatoes, and 140 to pack fruit. These workers are being placed on farms by the county agent, and plans are in full swing to recruit about 2,200 more Crop Corps workers needed in the county.

At Bridgeville, in Delaware, 50 Boy Scouts from Wilmington spent the last two weeks of May in a scout camp and cut 100 acres of asparagus every morning. They worked about 5 hours a day; work and recreation were under scout leaders. They got 40 cents an hour—the same as adult workers—and Harry Cannon, the farmer for whom they worked, said they did as much and as well as the adults. They've gone back to school now, and another group of 50 scouts are taking their place on the farm. In Newcastle County, 151 school boys and girls made short work of setting 175 acres of tomato plants, by staying out of school 2 days and doing the job as a group.

Pass the ammunition

It's "pass the ammunition" for two ministers in Dallas Center, Iowa, but this time their weapons are tractors and farm tools. Rev. J. S. Cook, First Brethren Church pastor, has worked 600 hours on Lawrence Baldner's farm since the hired man left last fall, disking, plowing, building fences, planting, etc. D. D. Fleischman, a fellow minister, is also helping. "Giddap," he says, "I may quit a little early tonight because of prayer meeting." Not far away, a

H. H. BENNETT, *SCS Chief, practices soil conservation in his victory garden as well as preaching it all over the country. Here, across the Potomac from Washington, rows laid out on contours get mulching materials saved through fall and winter. Dr. Bennett has two "sharecroppers"; Mrs. M. L. Wilson, wife of the Extension Director, and Mrs. Bonney Youngblood, wife of an OES Administrator. The three families expect to can a winter's supply of vegetables from the garden.*

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hardware store dealer, R. B. Stillsworth, closes shop at 6 p. m., drives to a nearby farm, and hops on a tractor to help take care of 600 acres. Such stories about bankers and businessmen pitching in and helping are not unusual, any more.

High-school boys and girls in southern Louisiana parishes saved tons of beans and potatoes during the past month. Much of the 300,000-acre crop of early potatoes and 10,000 acres of beans would have rotted in the fields but for their help. They joined the Crop Corps, and went to school on Saturdays so they could get out by May 15 to help with the harvest rush.

Back to the farm

Ed Hubbs, of Whitley County, Ky., last year sold his farm and equipment for $300 and worked in the coal mines nearby to make a living. When he learned that highly productive land in Ohio might fall off in output of war-vital food because of a labor shortage, he applied as a farm hand and WFA placed him on an Ohio farm for year-round work. Employed by George Abbott, of Medina County, he is getting $840 a year cash income, the upper apartment of a duplex home, with gas, electricity, and bath for himself, wife, and child, and an adequate supply of milk, wood for fuel, a quarter of a beef, and eggs at half the market price. Mr. Abbott has one other Kentucky family and has applied for a third.

Church, YWCA, YMCA help

The first community church at Grandview, near Columbus, Ohio, will start a farm labor camp, with 50 boys and girls from its young people. They will use an old resort hotel and church cooking utensils, and will pick berries and cherries, thin peaches, and weed crops during July and August.

At Ohio State University in Columbus, 50 YMCA girls plan to spend 10 weeks this summer on farms in Erie County, thinning peaches, picking fruit, vegetables, and so on. They will stay in an old school building, and each girl will pay $15 toward an instructor and will study evenings. About 40 Jewish boys and girls started work June 23 near Paynesville, living on a farm work camp sponsored by the local YMCA.

COUNTY *agents will give every worker in the Crop Corps a certificate signed by Chester Davis and Paul McNutt. Mexican workers will get theirs in Spanish.*

Memos

Ask for them by number.

Office of Personnel

For the duration, employees come to work on public holidays—except Christmas. This means January 1, February 22, May 30, July 4, Labor Day, November 11, and Thanksgiving. However, employees may request leave on "holidays" if they ask for the 2 days before and after. An Act of Congress prohibits charging employees for annual or sick leave on holidays (Circular 119, Revision 1).

To save travel, ODT Director Eastman asked Government agencies to schedule annual leave for travel from January 15 to December 15 so as to avoid holiday periods, to reduce Government travel to a minimum, and to consider carefully requests for speakers at meetings (Memorandum 997, Supplement 3).

Employees should set an example in travel conservation. They may now accumulate up to 90 days of annual leave, though not more than 15 in any one year. This doesn't necessarily mean a 90-day vacation after the war; it means that employees who stick to the job for the duration won't lose their leave.

Employees who think their efficiency ratings aren't fair may appeal within 90 days to the Chairman, Department of Agriculture Board of Review on Efficiency Ratings, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Victor Building, Washington. The board also will hold hearings in St. Louis, Kansas City, Cincinnati, and Columbus (P–347).

The War Department extended to July 1 the date for filing applications for release from the Army by soldiers 38 years old and over (P–248).

The Department must comply with the President's "hold the line" order and WMC regulations in granting job transfers. Employees considering a transfer should check with supervisors or personnel offices (Circular 126 and Supplement).

War Food Administration

J. S. Russell, assistant to the WFA Administrator, Ivy Duggan, Director, AAA Southern Division, and M. L. Wilson, Extension Director, form a committee to improve WFA's

services to Negro farmers. Mr. Russell is chairman (Administrator's Memorandum 6).

Chester Davis asked agency and division chiefs to expedite mail, and said "I will not sign—and I will not ask my associates to sign—letters that the correspondents have probably forgotten they ever wrote."

Mr. Davis said the Beverages and Tobacco Division, transferred from WPB to WFA, is uder FDA (Administrator's Memorandum 8).

Office of the Secretary

WFA will protect foodstuffs, fibers, naval stores, and vegetable oils from sabotage, fire, etc. FCA employees, who have received special training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., will help WFA (Memorandum 1015, Supplement 1).

This is one of the most important jobs of the Department. David J. Price, BAIC, who is president of the National Fire Protection Association, last month reported that one grain elevator fire destroyed bread rations for an army of 700,000.

USDA War Boards

Recuitment of workers for farms is to be only from nonessential activities, in carrying out War Board Memorandum 287 (Memorandum 362).

Substitutes for lumber (now scarce) on farms: commercial wall board or insulation board; brick and tile; concrete; and rubble masonry or stone - and - mortar (Memorandum 358).

Overheard in a grocery

"I don't care what this meat costs. I'd pay anything to get it." People like this may be paying more than ceiling prices and helping the black market.

Think twice before phoning Cousin Susie from the office to tell her your troubles with food and gasoline, or using long distance from home to wish Aunt Carrie many happy returns of the day. Each day the telephone company must put through thousands of war-vital long-distance calls to Government agencies. Use phones when lines are less crowded—before 9 a. m., between noon and 2 p. m., or 5 and 7 in the evening. Write a letter, if possible, instead of using long distance.

Ask others to think twice, too.

Department people

Twenty-six stars

Twenty-six employees of the Department have so far lost their lives or been reported missing in the present war. There are now 9,341 USDA men and women in the services. (In the last war, 2,850 served, and there are 69 names on the honor roll in the Administration Building.)

These are our honored dead of the second World War:

Dead

Ernest L. Bailey, AAA
Allen A. Brill, CCC
Noel A. Brown, SCS
Chester L. Buoy, Jr., SCS
Alex S. Caplan, Solicitor's Office
Donald Celers, FSA
Joseph Giacofci, FDA
Otto E. Kneuer, SCS
George A. Lunt, SCS
J. Ray McCorkle, SCS
John McCundy, FSA
James I. Mitchell, BEPQ
Frederick R. Pettys, BAI
Beach Peirce, Forest Service
Sidney Simms, FSA
John Simons, SCS
Nance D. Stark, SCS
Glenn J. Taylor, BEPQ

Missing

Thomas C. Burrell, SCS
Harold Costigan, FSA
Dean H. Craft, SCS
Kenneth O. Fuelscher, SCS
Lyles G. Hardin, SCS
Alvin L. Lockridge, SCS
George E. Miller, FDA
James R. Oppenheim, SCS

Fast work, Forest Service

At 2 p. m., May 17, a timber operator called the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan for some 60-foot piling to build a shipway in a Wisconsin shipyard. Forest Service workers began immediate marking of 60 trees suitable for the purpose. The supervisor's authority for sale was issued at 5 p. m.; cutting started at 7 a. m., May 18. The first truckload was scaled and loaded by noon, and arrived in Wisconsin by 10 p. m. At 8 a. m., May 19, the piling was being driven to launch an ocean-going boat to help defeat the Axis.

Eight years old

There were eight electric candles on REA's birthday cake in St. Louis on May 11. Highlight of the event was a message from President Roosevelt: "A few more years of intensified effort will enable every farm man, woman, and child in the United States, we hope, to turn on electric power or light or heat for work or for comfort whenever and wherever it is needed." Administrator Harry Slattery dedicated REA's new roll of honor of 260 members in the services.

Henry A. Nelson, known affectionately to many Department employees as Harry, died suddenly on May 28. Mr. Nelson, OBF Assistant Director, had been in the Department for 37 years and was an expert in Government purchasing and finance. He was president of the Agricultural Employees Credit Union and on the board of the Welfare Association.

SCS people in Wisconsin improved their ways of giving talks, leading discussions, and writing news stories by holding meetings through the State, at which information experts described the best methods of "working with people." The SCS workers still study these methods at staff meetings, and have devised a score sheet on which they anonymously criticize each other's talks and suggest improvements.

Lt. Louis R. Hueper, former SCS engineer, is a patient at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, recuperating from a leg injury sustained in the North African campaign.

Royal C. Steadman, retired USDA employee, who used to paint models of fruits and vegetables for BPISAE, recently painted former Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson (from a photograph) and gave the portrait to the Department. It hangs in the Wilson arch between the Administration and South Buildings. Mr. Wilson was Secretary for 16 years, from 1897 to 1913, and served under three Presi-

dents. Miss Flora Wilson, Mr. Wilson's daughter, works in the Department Library.

An election to determine the employee member of the USDA Board of Review on Efficiency Ratings will be held Tuesday, June 29 (in Washington). Biographical sketches of candidates will be posted on bulletin boards and employees will be told of voting schedules and locations of ballot boxes.

Accidents

In 1942, 20 USDA workers suffered fatal injuries and 2,368 nonfatal injuries in line of duty. Since 1938, when 110 USDA workers were killed and 8,224 injured, accidents have dropped steadily each year, with a sharp reduction during the first part of 1942 following the liquidation of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The many changes in bureau operations and the loss of thousands of trained workers turned the trend upward during the last half of the year; safety work of the various bureaus, however, undoubtedly prevented a more rapid rise.

WFA changes

Norris E. Dodd now heads the AAA; he was director of its Western Division, which is under G. F. Geissler. Leroy K. Smith, formerly manager of FCIC, becomes director of the AAA North Central Division, and J. Carl Wright, who was FCIC assistant manager, is acting manager.

Ninety-eight and thirteen

FCIC has the best record among bureaus for war bond deductions, 98 percent of its employees putting 13 percent of their salaries into bonds. BDI and OLUC are now in the 90 and 10 class (*USDA*, May 15 and 29).

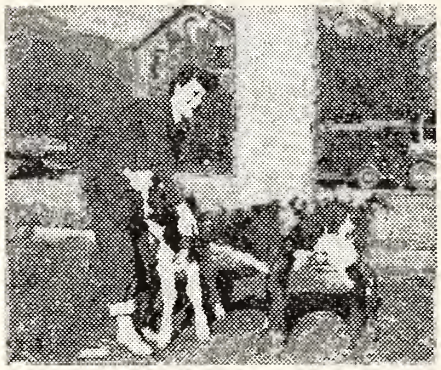
REA employees bought $41,410 worth of bonds during the second war loan drive. Nearly 500 purchased one or more bonds, in addition to pay-roll deductions.

Mary L. Martini, BPISAE Cereal Crops and Diseases, was awarded a bronze medallion recently by her alma mater, the Florida State College for Women, for contributing "so notably to the improvement of the grain crops of our country."

Washington employees are invited to Victory Vespers, held every Sunday at 8 p. m., in the Sylvan Theater, Washington Monument grounds.

Employees of the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois worked night and day with the Red Cross in aiding the homeless in the Mississippi flood zone near Jonesboro and Murphysboro. Forest Service telephone lines and radio equipment were a big help in emergency communication.

George F. Stewart, FSA supervisor in Durango, Colo., recently bought about a hundred calves for his district. When the last truckload arrived, it was late at night and none of the other men were around. But



Mrs. Irene Davis, FSA home-management supervisor, who was raised on a cattle ranch, pitched in and helped tend to the calves.

Very cooperative truck

When a plane overturned during an attempted take-off at an island base, a pole-setting truck from an REA-financed cooperative came to the rescue, lifting the plane with its crane and setting it right side up. This was done "with no fuss or bother," reported a grateful Army spokesman, "but with the instant and willing cooperation which will make our country invulnerable."

The Plumas National Forest may help along the Food for Freedom campaign by supplying "lady bugs" from its deeply wooded canyons. Ranger A. D. Clifford has had inquiries about the availability of Plumas lady bugs for California farmers as an aid in fighting destructive aphis. The aphis-eating bug is a "forest product" which the Forest Service has supplied in fairly large quantities in past years.

To be placed on the mailing list for Marketing Activities, news bulletin of FDA, write Harry W. Henderson, Marketing Reports Division. It is both useful and good reading.

Do you speak Thai?

Hilda Cunniff, one of the three people in the United States who can read, speak, and translate "Thai," language of Thailand, is now on detail to the Army Map Service from SCS. Miss Cunniff is a botanist in the SCS Division of Hillculture.

Letters to you

Sgt. J. Hennessy, on military furlough from the USDA, wrote recently:

Hello all:

Well, to all our fellow American friends of the American Department of Agriculture employees, I want to show our appreciation of the receiving of your "ditty bags" (toilet-article kits) in North Africa.

We "casualties" found great pleasure and usage in just such a bag . . . We all extend our many thanks for everything you people at home do for us while "we do the job," which shall be done.

Sgt. Hennessy—*and fellow soldiers and English soldiers as well.*

Mrs. Phyllis Browne, of Hillsdale, N. Y., wrote to Secretary Wickard:

"I thought you would like to know what one farmer's cooperative is doing to help win the war." Under a monthly milk check deduction plan—voluntary—members of the Hillsdale Producer's Cooperative authorize whatever they can afford deducted from each milk check towards war bonds. The Women's Auxiliary of the cooperative does all the clerical work and delivers the bonds. Mrs. Browne said: "We feel that if this idea would be encouraged by Nation-wide publicity . . . much needed money would be invested in war bonds to finance the war and stave off inflation."

OPA asks everyone to destroy expired, unused red and blue stamps. This guarantees that they cannot possibly get into black-market channels.

"Working with living things has a very healing psychological effect at a time when death is so near," said Miss Mary Grigs, of the Farmer's Weekly of London, in talking to USDA workers about the British Land Army. Although shrewd interviewers play down the glamor of farm work and point out its hardships, and the pay of Land Army girls is low compared with that in other industries, it remains the most popular kind of national service for women and girls. British farmers now testify to their efficiency.

Enough for everybody

ATTAINMENT of the objective raised by the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture last month must depend largely on the understanding of American farmers and consumers (or in other words, just Americans).

As most of us read in the papers, the conference declared that better nutrition for everybody in the world was possible, if necessary adjustments in production and distribution throughout the world can be worked out and agreed upon. The conference adjourned, leaving an interim commission to carry on the work of setting up a permanent world food organization, which will then need to be ratified by the governments concerned.

Whatever decision our Government makes must be publicly debated, in Congres and up and down the land. It is part of our duty to see that people have the facts on which to decide the issue clearly. As a first step, BAE is preparing a pamphlet on the subject of the American farmer and the United Nations food conference, setting forth what attainment of the conference objective will mean to the farmer.

Appleby broadcasts

Under Secretary Paul H. Appleby, a United States delegate to the conference, broadcast over the National Farm and Home Hour June 9:

"If the people of the world are to be adequately fed—and they can be if we make full use of modern knowledge of production—we must have industrial expansion as well as agricultural expansion. There must be full employment to create greatly increased purchasing power. Farmers' sons and daughters in the overcrowded countries must have opportunities to work in industry and trade.

"In other words, the barriers to opportunity must be progressively broken down—the barriers that shut off markets for agricultural products and force farmers to hold down production when every farmer's instinct is to produce all the earth will yield—the barriers that deny work to unemployed men—the barriers that prevent human beings from getting the food they need.

"I submit to you that there is great promise of better things when representatives of 44 nations can get together and agree on definite principles—and provide for continuing organization, as was done at Hot Springs, to put these principles into effect. There is hope that the boys who come back from this war will find what they want most of all—work worthy of the sacrifices they are making for the sake of a better world.

"If we start with this idea in mind—all of us—that in itself will have an effect. After the last war, we started with the idea of self-contained, shut-in nations—and we got narrowing opportunities and another great conflict. This time, let us start with the idea of a world in which nations will work together to do what no nation can do alone. Then I think that we shall get a world of expanding opportunities and a more enduring peace."

Management column

Strays and mavericks

Lyman S. Hulbert, Solicitor's Office, says: "I have no world-shaking suggestions to make. There is one minor suggestion, however . . . that the corridors facing toward Independence Avenue (South Building, Washington) be clearly numbered." This, he says, "should reduce the number of strays and mavericks frequently found wandering in the corridors in a half-dazed condition."

G. W. Musgrave, SCS research specialist, suggests using "Nature's air conditioning" during the heat and humidity of Washington summers by leaving corridor windows open at night.

Francis N. Andary, fruit and vegetable branch, FDA, proposed that men in supervisory positions in the various branches doing the same type of work should be given training one night a week on how to go about their work more efficiently. FDA Administrator Roy Hendrickson, who already had this in mind, put it into effect at once.

Susanna E. Topping, of FDA, suggested that sale of postage stamps in the cafeterias would be convenient for employees. (The Welfare Association put this idea into effect.)

From Rose Green, of the USDA branch library in Philadelphia, comes the suggestion that carbon copies of answers be made on the back of the letters of inquiry. This would save space, paper, and time in filing, she says.

Watch for these

Wartime Canning of Fruits, Vegetables (AWI–41).—Salient points in saving garden and orchard produce can be seen at a glance by spreading this folder right out on the kitchen table; it tells what kinds of tops and rubbers to use. *Meals for Industrial Workers* (NFC–2).—It tells how to supply nourishing foods to workers in industrial plants; gives sample menus and food combinations. *Grass Seed Production* (AWI–43).—Grass and legume seed is needed for meadows and pastures, importations are cut off; this pamphlet gives farmers pointers on growing their own seed. *Protecting Potatoes From Late Blight* (AWI–18).—Proper precautions against this disease, spraying, and dusting increase the yield of potatoes and save this war-vital crop from rotting in the field and bin.

Plenty of victory gardens were planted. The job now is to keep them going beyond the easy and rather unimportant lettuce and radishes into a summer and fall of real food production. Help your neighbors plan now for fall gardens. Profiting by his mistakes, many an inexperienced gardener can still produce worthwhile crops of greens, beans, various root vegetables, and other crops for winter storage. Let him replace his lost copy of the victory garden leaflet, and look on an idle garden filled with weeds as a disgrace and a danger signal—for all signs point to an increasingly serious food situation.

Program notes

Meat is tough

To help with wartime regulation of the livestock and meat industry unavoidably is difficult and complex. A 9-man War Meat Board has been set up in Chicago to help allocate supplies. Chairman is Harry E. Reed, Chief, FDA Livestock and Meats Branch; W. O. Fraser, his assistant, is acting chairman. Members are Col. Paul P. Logan, Office of the Quartermaster General; John J. Madigan and Wells E. Hunt, OPA; and from the industry, A. L. Scott (Swift), John Heinz (Heinz Riverside Abattoir), Gus Robort (Cudahy), Walter A. Netsch (Armour), George C. Abraham (Abraham Brothers), Harold H. Meyer (Meyer Packing Co.), and Ralph H. Daigneau (Hormel).

Monthly reports to FDA regional offices are now required of all local slaughterers of livestock; also from butchers in months when they slaughter more than 2 tons live weight. Quotas for local slaughterers for June and succeeding months were set at 80 percent of the quantity for the corresponding month of 1941. Adjustments, which do not affect civilian meat supplies, were made in slaughter regulations. Farmers and other "non quota" slaughterers must continue to mark all wholesale cuts of meat to identify the person for whom it was killed (using either an inspection stamp or a permit number), while quota slaughterers, beginning May 13, were required to stamp each wholesale cut with a city, county, State, or Federal inspection number. Beginning June 12, frozen and cured beef and pork inventories of all slaughterers, wholesalers, meat handlers, and meat processors (but not stocks in retail stores) were restricted by a WFA order. The first limitation on inventories applied to federally inspected slaughterers only. Over-all inventory control will make meat produced in excess of civilian quotas more readily available for Government purchase, but will not curtail civilian supplies.

U. S. crop prospects

War Food Administrator Davis, commenting on the June crop report, said crop damage was serious, though not so extensive as was feared in view of the widespread floods in May and drought in parts of the West. "The remarkable planting record made by Illinois farmers in the week after the rains stopped and the fields started to dry out," he said, "concurs with reports we have from many other sections that the farm people are working without a bit of let-up to get in all the acreage that can be cropped this year . . . Preliminary indications point toward per acre yields under 1942, but approaching those for 1937–41.

Make food fight

"Including livestock output, which will be bigger, the total food production of 1943 will probably about match or reach that of 1942, given average weather from here on and adequate labor and supplies for bringing the harvests home . . . The meaning of this report to all of us is redoubled effort to produce food on the farm, in victory gardens, to conserve every scrap of food, to waste nothing. That is the way to make food fight most effectively for our side in this war."

Farmers

Deductions in AAA payments to farmers who fail to plant 90 percent of the goals will apply only where the county AAA committee decides unfavorable weather has not interfered, in areas with hay and pasture goals and the High Plains of Texas and Oklahoma. On other farms in these areas and on farms in the rest of the country, the deductions no longer apply . . . Credit through FSA and RACC was made available to farmers in the midwestern flood area.

WFA plans to requisition idle farm machinery, for purchase by farmers who need it: said chemical nitrogen may be used on fall-sown grains for harvest (this was prohibited in 1942); and established control of the distribution and sale of organic nitrogen. WFA also announced discontinuance of CCC sales of wheat for feed purposes, except to take care of emergency situations; extended control of potato shipments in 90 more counties in 5 Southeastern States; and announced minimum wages for mainland sugarcane workers and grower prices for dried and canned apricots.

Reports have come in of farmers complaining that since the price "roll-back" and subsidy plan for butter was announced, they are not getting the regular price from creameries. Background Information on Butter Roll-back, available from the Office of Information, Washington, explains the program.

Civilians

OPA rolled back retail butter prices about 10 percent and potato prices 7 percent; and rationed canned milk.

It will help to avoid food waste, particularly now, if people will

How many of these USDA people do you know?

If you get 7 out of 10, you're good. Match 10 definitions with the names, writing a number in each space. *See p. 8 for answers.*

Seaman Knapp	☐ ____	*1. Information expert*
Grover B. Hill	☐ ____	*2. "Dean" of personnel*
Hugh H. Bennett	☐ ____	*3. War Food Administrator*
W. W. Stockberger	☐ ____	*4. Assistant Secretary*
Jeremiah M. Rusk	☐ ____	*5. Former Secretary*
Chester C. Davis	☐ ____	*6. Librarian*
W. A. Jump	☐ ____	*7. Budget and finance head*
Louise Stanley	☐ ____	*8. Special assistant to Research Administrator*
Morse Salisbury	☐ ____	*9. Soil conservation chief*
Marion Dorset	☐ ____	*10. Discoverer of hog-cholera serum*
		11. Agricultural statistician
		12. Extension pioneer

spread their buying of fruits and vegetables through the week, instead of stocking up each week end. Big week-end stocks mauled over by week-end shoppers result in bruises, spoilage, sometimes big carryovers. You can get better buys during the week, and likewise help to conserve the supply.

Industry

CCC will sell cotton bagging to manufacturers, to supplement jute (normally imported) for covering cotton bales . . . OPA set a ceiling price for cotton bagging, which includes a subsidy paid by the USDA.

WFA asked five freight associations to lower rates on used containers shipped north, because of a container shortage in the Southeast. . . . It also asked railroads to only half fill ice bunkers, to save refrigeration charges on fruits and vegetables.

Skim-milk powder manufacturers must set aside 75 percent of production for June and July.

WFA authorized manufacturers to distribute all their production of milking machines, farm cream separators, and farm milk coolers, eliminating a 10 percent reserve previously required.

To make corn available for feeders in deficit areas as well as corn processing plants which supply war industries, WFA called all loans on the 1942 crop, for delivery of the corn or repayment of the loan not later than July 15. Corn was moved immediately from nearby CCC bins to keep in operation starch plants at Keokuk, Iowa, and Penkin, Ill. Elevator stocks will be requisitioned, if necessary, to continue uninterrupted production of corn products for the war.

Sweetpotatoes and carrots were removed from the list of dehydrated vegetables reserved for war needs. WFA announced the list of "set aside" and "restricted" foods which authorized contract schools (for training military personnel) and ship operators may buy under the certificate plan, effective June 15.

Wheat

Following the feed wheat bill signed by President Roosevelt, 50 million bushels of feed wheat were put on sale by WFA. The additional feed wheat is expected to help alleviate feed shortages in the eastern, southern, and western deficit producing areas. The WFA announced a loan program for the 1943 wheat crop, averaging nationally $1.22 at the farm.

A new way to make alcohol from wheat was found by Dr. A. K. Balls and Irwin Tucker of BAIC. Briefly, they found that the diastase in granular wheat flour can be activated so as to convert its own starch into fermentable sugars without the addition of malt, as has always been necessary. Recovery of protein for livestock feed also looks promising. The War Production Board is arranging to carry out tests of the process on a commercial scale.

Dehydration is not the Department's last word in ship saving. Overseas shipments of compressed foods will soon comprise a large proportion of total food shipments, said WFA. Compressing squeezes any food, dehydrated or otherwise, into the smallest possible space. Flour, for instance, can be so compacted that up to 20 percent more will go into an ordinary sack.

Forest protection

Last year forest fires burned over a total of 31,854,000 acres, compared with 26,404,385 in 1941. Ninety percent of the acres burned was in 11 Southern States. A sharp rise in the number of incendiary, or deliberately set, fires occurred during the year. But these were not for the most part intended as sabotage. Many came from traditional but misguided woods-burning practices in the South, others from smokers or the careless burning of brush and debris.

In forest-fire prevention, a vital war job, all agencies and personnel of the Department can help by setting a personal example and telling others.

Rural electrification

Rural electrification continues to grow during the war. REA allocations of $1,957,000 to 23 systems in 16 States were announced recently, extending service to more than 1,000 livestock, dairy, and poultry farms qualifying under WPB regulations.

Fats and oils

WFA added animal, neat's-foot, and red oils to the list of allocated oils, and added fats, oils, and tobacco to the list of products for which WFA can issue priorities.

Use of tung oil (which we normally import from China) was forbidden in cargo ship paint, linseed oil to be used instead. (We produce about 6 million pounds of tung oil along the Gulf coast, about one-twenty-fifth of our normal consumption.) WFA released reserves of cocoanut and babassu oils from Government reserves for industrial use. Oilseed orders 4 and 5 were revoked.

So they said

The USDA gave pointers on saving pigs and feed; and reported experimental plantings of 650 acres of goldenrod, part of the 1943 emergency rubber program, had been finished.

In other countries

OFAR reported that Australia's 1943–44 wheat acreage will probably be lower than in 1942–43; that Canadian wheat growers are shifting to feed grains; that Canada is requisitioning the bulk of the Cheddar cheese output for the United Kingdom; and that Argentina has prohibited export of edible vegetable oils.

India reported a record wheat crop of more than 400,000,000 bushels, expected to be sufficient for her vast population's needs this year. She has reduced her cotton production in favor of food crops. Brazil has an exportable surplus of milled rice from the current crop, which may reach a record total of between 225 and 350 million pounds, enabling Brazil to contribute substantially to the United Nations' food supply. First estimates of wheat and barley harvestings in Egypt indicated a record acreage this year.

American farmers are not carrying the burden alone.

As an established policy of the Government, from now on the unity of the entire effort on the food front—on the farm, in processing plants, restaurants, grocery stores, and home—will be stressed more and more. The Office of War Information is planning an Over-All Food Campaign. As the call comes for more adjustments on the farms and in city homes, people will need to know the reasons for these adjustments, and the essential facts about wartime food production, nutrition, conservation, and rationing. Nobody is going to go hungry, if all Americans pull together, and Americans will cooperate to the degree that they understand.

"It's Up to You" is up to you

THE *farmer's son reads a report from the Department of Agriculture, claiming the farmer as an unsung hero of American life. Left to right: The farmer's son, the American housewife, the farmer, the farmer's wife.*

If you want a production in your community of It's Up to You, the dramatized war information message on food, it's up to the local groups to put on the show. The Department prepared facts for the script, which the Office of War Information distributes to noncommercial theater groups on request.

Should you decide to produce the play, please inform the nearest FDA regional office (USDA, February 5). (An FDA representative will arrange to have the local Food Advisory Committee sponsor and help promote the show.)

In Washington now

So far, 268 local "little theater" groups and other amateurs are putting on the show. The Washington premiere was last spring; in the Department a repeat run was scheduled for the third week in June, with the assistance of Lt. Garson Kanin, a Hollywood director of Ginger Rogers and other stars. The cast for this show is recruited from all Federal agencies in Washington, with people from various agencies attending on designated nights. USDA came first. Our night was Tuesday, June 22. Admission was free to USDA workers and their families and friends on purchase of a 25 cent war stamp.

"Porterhouse Lucy"

It's Up to You is noncommercial, highly stimulating, fun to put on and to watch, and at least one character, Porterhouse Lucy, the black-market steak, is on her way to national fame. Arthur Arent, a playwright, wrote the script, Earl Robinson, a composer, the songs; but the biggest punch comes from the enthusiasm with which thousands of amateur actors from New York to Perkins Corners are putting across the show. Here, at last, is something real they can do.

How many of these did you know? (p. 6)

Knapp	☐ *12. Extension pioneer*
Hill	☐ *4. Assistant Secretary*
Bennett	☐ *9. Soil conservation chief*
Stockberger	☐ *2. "Dean" of personnel*
Rusk	☐ *5. Former Secretary*
Davis	☐ *3. War Food Administrator*
Jump	☐ *7. Budget and finance head*
Stanley	☐ *8. Special assistant to Research Administrator*
Salisbury	☐ *1. Information expert*
Dorset	☐ *10. Discoverer of hog-cholera serum*

With the USDA Clubs

The Personnel Welfare Committee of the East Bay (Berkeley) Club set up a rental agency for USDA people and gets advance notice of houses and apartments to be vacated . . . The Berkeley, Richmond, and New York Clubs send informal letters to members in the armed services.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA July 10, 1943

The first crop report

THE DEPARTMENT lost its living link with the Lincoln administration in the recent death of Miss Amanda Almira Newton, granddaughter of Isaac Newton, first Commissioner of Agriculture. For more than 30 years, Miss Newton was a USDA employee, retiring in 1929. She was a "scientific colorist," painting pictures and wax models of fruits and vegetables, a task at which she excelled.

On the National Farm and Home Hour in 1938, on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the U. S. Crop Reporting Service, Miss Newton told about her grandfather's relations with the Lincoln family. Like the present Secretary of Agriculture, he was a dirt farmer. Before entering the Government service, he lived in Pennsylvania on a well-stocked farm. Every week he sent butter to the White House.

"Friend Newton"

Newton was already in charge of agricultural work in the Patent Office, when in May 1862, President Lincoln signed the bill creating the Department of Agriculture. Newton became its first head, with the rank of commissioner, and served until he died, in 1867. He was a Quaker and Lincoln called him "Friend Newton." "He was greatly beloved by the President," Miss Newton recalled. "They used to play chess together." Once her older sister went to the White House with the commissioner, sitting on the President's knee while the two men played.

Research by T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, has uncovered evidence that Mr. Newton also acted as temporary banker and household intermediary, when Mrs. Lincoln appealed to him regarding extra large department-store bills she could not pay, and regarding which she feared to go to her husband. Newton would put up the money to pay the bills, if they were not too much, and Mrs. Lincoln would repay him. If they were very large, he himself would intercede with the President.

Once a month these USDA workers start work earlier than farmers. At 4 a. m., the Crop Reporting Board meets in the South Building to start compiling the July report in order to have it mimeographed by 3 p. m. By act of Congress, to prevent word on speculative crops from leaking out before the deadline, they work behind locked doors, often in stifling heat. They fix their own breakfast and lunch. Even the venetian blinds are tightly fastened with a hooked rod, because once a sly signal from a window let cotton speculators make a killing. Up to the last minute, reports on speculative crops from key States are kept locked in a mail box in the office of the Secretary. Mr. Wickard has one key, Board Chairman Joseph A. Becker the other.

Around the corner is a room with telephone and telegraph, and a line painted on the floor. When the mimeographed reports are brought in and laid face down on the table, the reporters await the signal, "On your mark, get set, go!" Then they race to tell their papers the estimates, compiled from reports of 200,000 volunteer crop reporters and a trained staff of Federal–State statisticians. Thus with appropriate drama is released perhaps the most important news on earth today, how the crops of America look in mid-season.

537258°—43

A stormy career

Like his friend in the White House, the first head of the Department had a stormy career. His formal education was limited; many critics insisted that he was practically illiterate and utterly incompetent. There was a strong movement to oust him some months before he died.

On the other hand, he was a successful, practical farmer, managing two large farms in Delaware County, Pa., so capably as to make them widely celebrated as model farms, and he was active in the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society. At the time the Department was founded, neither the President nor any powerful group thought its establishment through or agreed upon what it could accomplish. Newton retained or appointed several capable scientists—Townsend Glover, the entomologist, Charles Wetherill, the chemist, Lewis Bollman, the statistician, and William Saunders, the extremely efficient botanist and superintendent of the propagating garden. It was left to the commissioner to state what he regarded as the Department's objectives, and this he did with considerable wisdom and clarity.

"The world leans on us"

And on the tenth of July 1863, the Department issued its first monthly crop report (this date has been followed for the reports ever since). The situation of the country then was not unlike the present. Freedom was at stake, and the farmers were straining their energies to provide food for war, for export, and for civilian needs.

"The wants of Europe have established a great and rapidly increasing dependence upon the United States for its agricultural products," wrote Mr. Newton in releasing the July 10, 1863, report. "The world leans on us. To meet demands of this great magnitude is the mission of American agriculture."

With such aid as could be given by the young Department, then housed in two basement rooms of the old Patent Office Building (now occupied by the U. S. Civil Service Commission), American farmers met the challenge of 1863 and succeeding years until victory was won.

In July 1866, Commissioner Newton sat in his office and heard a thunderstorm approaching. He remembered that certain wheat-variety samples had not been cut. They had to be cut at once and kept out of the rain. So he grabbed his hat and hurried over to the experimental farm, near the present Bureau of Engraving and Printing, to supervise their rescue. He stood in the hot sun, wearing his silk hat, and like as not a frock coat, until the work was done. As a result he suffered sunstroke from the effects of which he never recovered. The first head of our Department, the originator of its world-famous crop reports and many other services, died on June 19, 1867.

Program notes

USDA War Boards

In view of the eastern gasoline shortage, only essential transportation is permitted, though farmers engaged in food, feed, or livestock production will be allowed the full amount as shown on their certificates of war necessity for the third quarter. Under the WPB priority system, production and marketing of farm products is second only to military operations (Memorandum 365).

Under a plan developed in Wake County, N. C., farmers' applications for gasoline rations for passenger automobiles must be approved by the township AAA committeemen and then sent to the County Farm Transportation Committees (Memorandum 367).

Flood relief measures were outlined, including construction materials and supplies, credit facilities, distribution of farm machinery and repair parts, available feed, Army aid in fixing damaged machines, labor, and 1943 program adjustments (Memorandum SD).

Authorization by the War Boards for converting steel wheel tractors to rubber was cleared up (Memorandum 374).

Manufacturers are authorized to distribute 100 percent of their production of irrigation pipe, extensions, and sprinklers (Memorandum 366).

Farmers

OPA brought under control for the first time ground corn, cracked corn, corn chops, corn bran, hominy feed, corn feed meal, ear corn chops, corn germ cake, and meal. (Corn, plain corn, is already under price control.)

Farmers needing implement or front-wheel tractor tires may buy substitutes when they cannot find the kind on the ration certificate.

Pigs are surprising

The June Pig Crop Report showed an estimated spring pig crop of 74,000,000, 22 percent larger than the 1942 spring pig crop. A 1943 fall pig crop of about 53,000,000 is indicated by farmers' reports; about 21 percent above the 1942 fall pig crop. Together, spring and fall pig crops would give us about 127,000,000 hogs, or almost one hog for each person in the United States. The average number of hogs in this country for the past 10 years has been only 73,148,000.

But with a third of our pork going for military and lend-lease needs, there will be plenty of demand for the pigs which stay at home. The question is to balance the flow of corn to feed the pigs and supply corn-processing plants, and not to let our pig population, useful as it has been and will be in winning the war, increase faster than we are prepared to handle it.

Industry

Secretary of Commerce Jones said bankers or others may give credit to livestock slaughterers or butter producers to cover subsidies, with the assurance of prompt RFC payments.

Ship chandlers are permitted to store and accumulate shell eggs for use of ship operators.

WFA urged cotton ginners to make plans for bale ties now. By using reworked and used bale ties in line with a WPB program they can save more than 10,000 tons of steel this year.

Civilians

Secretary of Labor Perkins reported that while the cost of items making up 60 percent of the family budget remained unchanged in the month ended May 15, a rise of 1.7 percent in food prices increased the total cost of living for city workers by .8 percent.

Reductions in prices averaging 10 percent, or 3 cents a pound retail, became effective June 21, on all meat except cured and processed pork; on the latter, reductions were effective July 5.

OPA said prices figured under the fixed mark-up regulations covering sales of groceries and perishable foods did not override community-wide dollars-and-cents ceilings, but that the latter ceilings, if so stated,

might override the prices under the regulations.

The Director of Economic Stabilization announced steps to be taken by various Government agencies to insure enough processed vegetables.

Judge Jones heads WFA

On June 29 Judge Marvin Jones took the oath of office as War Food Administrator, succeeding Chester C. Davis, who resigns to return to the Federal Reserve Bank at St. Louis. Said Judge Jones, who was for years chairman of the House of Representatives Agriculture Committee: "I have spent the best years of my life in working for what I conceived to be the best interest of those who live on our farms. As War Food Administrator I expect to do the best job I can with the tools at hand. Conscious of my own limitations I ask the cooperation of all. I hope that those who are disposed to criticize will make their suggestions and then join the team. If we work together, plan properly, and recognize the production and marketing problems of the farmer and the processing and distribution problems of the food industry, I am confident that we can supply the necessary demands for food, provided, of course, that God in His infinite wisdom blesses us with good weather."

Weather reports issued shortly after indicated good growing weather through most of the major crop regions.

Press, public, and Congress commented upon the sudden shift in War Food Administration leadership. One point, which needs stressing here: Judge Jones, like Mr. Davis, will be counting upon, and he will have, the cooperation of the entire Department of Agriculture, both those units included in the Food Administration and those which are not. USDA people know how to take changes in their strides, to keep on keeping on.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones has named Paul A. Porter as WFA Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Porter was an OPA Deputy Administrator in charge of the rent control program. Jesse W. Tapp, WFA Associate Administrator, and William E. Byrd, Jr., WFA Deputy Administrator, have resigned.

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War Food Administration
(within the Department of Agriculture)

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Associate Administrator	Paul A. Porter
Associate Administrator and Director, Food Production Administration	J. B. Hutson
Food Production Administration	
Associate Director, FPA	E. C. Auchter
Deputy Director, FPA	D. A. Fitzgerald
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Chief, Soil Conservation Service	Hugh H. Bennett
Chief, Production Goals Branch	Sherman B. Johnson
Chief, Conservation Programs Branch	E. D. White
President, Commodity Credit Corporation	J. B. Hutson
Deputy Administrator and Director, Food Distribution Administration	Roy F. Hendrickson

War Food Administration—Continued.

Food Distribution Administration

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Chiefs of branches	
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Dairy and Poultry	T. G. Stitts
Fats and Oils	C. T. Prindeville, Acting
Fruit and Vegetable	W. G. Meal
Grain Products	E. J. Murphy
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Special Commodities	H. C. Albin
Sugar	Joshua Bernhardt
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Transportation and Warehousing	W. C. Crow
Deputy Director, FDA	J. S. Russell
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Civilian Programs	C. F. Kunkel, Acting
Nutrition and Food Conservation	M. L. Wilson
Deputy Director, FDA	E. A. Meyer
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Requirements and Allocation Control	John M. Cassels
Deputy Administrator in charge of Materials and Facilities	M. Lee Marshall
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Material Allotment Control Division	
Farm Machinery and Supplies	P. L. Sweet, Acting
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Assistant to the Administrator	J. S. Russell
Director of Transportation	James F. Brownlee
Director of Extension	M. L. Wilson

Memos

Office of Personnel

Overtime pay, or additional pay in place of overtime, applies to all employees except the Secretary, those employed outside continental United States, those paid local wage rates, those employed cooperatively with a non-Federal agency, and those whose wages are fixed on an hourly or daily basis by a wage board (Circular 130, Revision 1).

More areas having Federal employment stabilization practices that comply with WMC policies were added to the list (Circular 126, Supplement 3).

Part-time employees were defined and their pay determined (Circular 129, Supplement 3).

Field employment officers may make appointments in the field for positions in Grades CAF–10, CAF–11, P–4, EO–12, and EO–13, and those indicated in Schedule A of the Civil Service Rules (Circular 98, Supplement 7).

Instructions for preparing the fan-fold notification form were amended (Circular 93, Supplement 17).

War Food Administration

The War Food Administrator may requisition food for human or animal consumption and other personal property.

The FPA War Board Services Branch is transferred to the Office of the WFA Administrator and reports to J. S. Russell, Assistant to the Administrator (Memorandum 11).

Associate Administrators Hutson and Tapp will supervise a feed program (Memorandum 16).

The FDA trade and industry advisory committees are designated WFA committees (Memorandum 5, Supplement 1).

WFA associate administrators are authorized to approve memoranda of understanding relating to soil conservation districts (Memorandum 14).

Lt. Col. Jay L. Taylor, WFA Deputy Administrator in charge of the Office of Labor, has been recalled by the Army. Col. Philip G. Bruton succeeds him.

Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling, BHNHE Assistant Chief, was chosen by the American Home Economics Association as the outstanding nutritionist of the year. She was given the Borden award—a gold medal and $1,000.

USDA

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA July 24, 1943

Beginning of a fiscal year

Because we begin a new year with unprecedented responsibilities, it is desirable for all of us to understand in broad terms the financial situation which affects our policy and daily work during the months to come.

The 78th Congress, before it recessed July 8, passed appropriation acts for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Appropriations and reappropriations total $972,171,694, an increase of $42,382,194 over the past year. However, this increase in Department funds is only apparent, since "technical" increases totaling $211,714,886 are offset by a net decrease of $169,332,692 in the remaining appropriations for the Department. The "technical" increases are: $170,281,000 to meet commitments for full parity payments on the 1942 crop; $16,526,613 for increased payments to sugar producers for the fiscal years 1943 and 1944, as required by an amendment to the Sugar Act; $20,000,000 in appropriated funds for REA loans in lieu of funds borrowed in past years from RFC; and $4,907,273 to replenish funds for emergency feed and seed loans. In addition to appropriated funds, the Department may borrow $90,000,000 from RFC for rural rehabilitation and farm tenancy loans, compared with $130,000,000 for 1943.

The act includes $25,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the War Food Administration. A large part of this sum is to finance activities assigned to the WFA by the President, including functions transferred from the War Production Board. A new item of $15,000,000 is provided for loans to farmers whose property was destroyed or damaged by floods in 1943.

The 1944 Appropriation Act requires the liquidation of the Federal crop insurance program and provides funds only for meeting contracts on 1943 wheat and cotton crops. Funds for supervision and technical assistance in connection with the FSA rural rehabilitation program are reduced in half, and the loan funds are reduced from $97,500,000 to $60,000,000. Farm tenancy loans will remain at substantially the same level.

The cost of living in New Orleans, La., promptly dropped five percent *after a city-wide campaign during which housewives all over town took the Home Front Pledge, "I pay no more than top legal prices, I accept no rationed goods without giving up ration stamps." The reason why the cost of living dropped: The black market took a blow in the solar plexus. Soon, all American housewives will be asked to take the pledge. In the rural districts, FSA, SCS, and Extension workers will actively cooperate (handbooks will be sent them); in cities and towns, a USDA representative will help the committees planning the local campaigns.*

About $97,000,000 will be available to FDA for "Section 32" activities (30 percent of customs receipts). This is a reduction of $78,000,000, approximately the amount formerly used for the Food Stamp Plan. The act specifically authorizes the use of not to exceed $50,000,000 of "Section 32" funds for the school lunch and milk program.

Certain changes were made in the two principal AAA appropriations (conservation and use of agricultural land resources and parity payments). The sum of $400,000,000 is provided primarily for acreage allotment and soil-building payments to farmers, a reduction of $44,000,000 below last year but sufficient to cover the 1943 program. Not more than $30,000,000 of the $400,000,000 can be used for administrative expenses in the Washington, State, and county offices. The act also limits the payments which can be made under next year's agricultural conservation program to $300,000,000 and specifies that only "soil-building" payments can be made. The 1944 act does not make provision for parity payments on the 1943 or 1944 crops.

WFA's request for additional borrowing power for the CCC became involved in a Congressional debate on subsidies paid from CCC funds. Congress passed one bill which would have practically prohibited subsidy payments, but the President vetoed it. Then Congress passed a temporary measure increasing CCC's borrowing power by $350,000,000, continuing it as a U. S. agency through December 1943, and carrying no restrictions on the payment of subsidies.

The economic investigations work of BAE was reduced by $162,970, while the crop and livestock estimates work was increased by $200,000. Reductions, some quite substantial, were applied to nearly all the Department's research and regulatory items, though in no case were broad lines of work eliminated. The Forest Service was provided with an increase of $116,135 for timber sales work and funds were provided to continue, at about the same level, the emergency forest fire control. In the REA program, a reduction of about $750,000 in administrative expenses was pro-

539841°—43

vided, whereas loan funds, including carry-over from 1943, will be somewhat increased. The SCS will receive $20,675,136, a reduction of about $1,600,000. About $367,000 of this reduction is applied to research and general administration; the balance to soil and moisture conservation.

A provision in the act with respect to the RACC loans, while not yet fully interpreted, will probably restrict some phases of the program.

Reductions aggregating over $600,000 were made in the Offices of the Secretary, Solicitor, and Information. Of considerable interest and importance is the appropriation of $400,000 for an unexpendable working capital fund to finance on a reimbursable basis such centralized services as duplicating, photographing, motor transport, and central supplies.

Program notes

The 1944 program

The 1944 food production program announced by WFA calls for planting a record total of about 380 million acres in crops and maintaining the production of meat, dairy products, and eggs at high levels. Sixty-eight millions of acres of wheat, 26 percent above the indicated seedings for harvest this year, was the first specific crop goal to be announced.

In asking farmers for further upward adjustment of total production, War Food Administrator Jones stressed the need for planting more acres in crops such as dry beans and peas, soybeans, potatoes, and peanuts, which have a high value as food for direct human consumption. To obtain adequate increases in such crops and to balance total production generally, WFA will continue to support prices, establishing price relationships at levels designed to bring the needed volume of production. The program also will include aid to farmers in conservation practices which increase production; and more machinery and fertilizer will be availablt during the 1044 crop year than in 1943. (WPB has approved a program, starting July 1, for producing farm machinery at 80 percent of the 1940 level.) Plans are also under way for better use of the available labor supply.

Cotton marketing quotas will not be in effect for the 1944 crop; the BAE July 8 acreage estimate showed farmers have in cultivation now nearly a million and a half acres less than last year, and 8 million acres less than the acreage permitted under the 1943 quotas. Immediate action was planned to terminate quotas on the 1943 crop. The cotton loan program will remain in effect for the 1943–44 marketing season.

Increases of 30 to 40 percent will be called for in dry edible beans and peas, 20 to 25 percent for peanuts, and 15 to 20 percent for soybeans used as beans. Continued high acreages will be needed for flaxseed, Irish and sweet potatoes, and certain other vegetables. Some of the feed crops, especially corn and alfalfa hay, should be increased substantially.

Although a sharp increase in wheat acreage is called for, a reduction of the acreage of winter rye for grain is recommended because of the more urgent need for other crops; it is suggested that rye acreage be decreased except where rye will produce more food or feed per acre than any alternative crop.

As in previous war years, every farmer will be contacted and asked before his planting season to prepare a plan covering his contemplated 1944 operations.

Farmers

Wheat loan rates on the 1943 crop were increased 1 cent to $1.23 a bushel. The CCC will buy wheat from farmers where producers can't ship to normal markets, where local storage is unavailable, and where the CCC owns bins for storing the purchased wheat.

The WFA:

Urged farmers to market promptly corn not needed to carry livestock until the 1943 crop is available. Farmers selling corn between July 1 and August 10 will get a supplementary payment later if ceiling prices increase by October 31.

Will control the distribution of chemical fertilizer for the 1943–44 crop season.

Arranged with ODT and OPA to assure owners of custom-operated machinery enough gasoline and tires; and asked State officials to facilitate movement of such machinery to and from wheat States.

Urged growers to keep production of early winter vegetables at the high level of the past two seasons.

Will fully support potato market, as previously announced, through purchases.

Announced grower prices for 7 types of berries for canning and freezing.

Limited rotenone insecticides for crops and animals to uses contributing most to food production.

So that farm people selling direct at retail may know how many points to collect for a pound of butter or other rationed product, the OPA will send direct to the County War Boards and the county agents copies of the consumer point charts.

4–H boys and girls presented four ambulances to the Surgeon General of the Army in honor of members with the armed forces.

A Mississippi farmer and restaurant operator was fined $5,000 for killing livestock without a permit.

Civilians

While supplementary gasoline rations will not be issued for those beginning Victory Gardens after July 12, those who have already started gardens may continue to obtain necessary gasoline through local rationing boards. For many gardeners, the best is yet to come. The Department urges heavy fall planting. When to plant what for home use and winter storage is determined by the date of the first killing frost in each locality; ask the county agent.

Civilian beef and veal quotas for July-September are the same as in the second quarter, but those for pork, lamb, and mutton are raised. (WFA said this probably would not change the quantity of meat available to civilians, however.) WFA urged consumers to use more of the bumper crop of new potatoes (these are not suitable for long storage). The entire production of canned tuna packed after June 27 will be available for civilians. OPA issued a revised table, effective July 4, of point values for meat, fish, fats, and dairy products.

Industry

WFA requisitioned corn stocks in 96 midwestern elevators to help corn processing plants get supplies for producing feed and industrial products.

Teen-age boys and girls who work in food-processing plants this summer will be under protection of State and Federal labor laws.

Meat Restriction Order No. 1, embodying a quota system on the basis of quarter-year periods for slaughterers whose quota base exceeds 2 million pounds a year, establishes a new designation, "commercial slaughterer." WFA also established quotas of meat which commercial slaughterers may deliver for civilian consumption July 1 to September 30. Custom slaughterers must have permits to slaughter and get statements from owners of the stock to be slaughtered.

Several million pounds of crude soybean oil will be available for glycerine production during July and August. Linseed oil crushers must reserve 45 percent of their future raw oil production; and holders of 240,000 pounds or more of all linseed oils must reserve 25 percent of their present inventories. WFA and WPB reduced the quantity of critical tung oil available for the next 12 months in manufacturing metal food containers.

Refrigeration rates on fresh vegetables, fruits, and melons are reduced 10 percent through ICC action instructing railroads to set charges for "half stage" icing.

Government set-aside provisions for certain classes of dry beans and peas apply only when they are delivered into direct channels of consumption.

WFA renewed the limitations on pet-food manufacture, to divert as much animal and vegetable protein as possible into livestock and poultry feeds.

Changes were made in the bread order; the tea distribution orders were amended; and pepper and cinnamon quotas for packers, receivers, and industrial users for the third quarter were reduced.

So they said

WMC Chairman McNutt said an estimated 1,000,000 persons will be enrolled in training courses for agriculture during 1943–44.

ARA said that two new sugarcane varieties, C. P. 33–310 and C. P. 33–425, are adapted to limited cane-growing areas and mechanical harvesting; that Coastal Bermuda, developed by the USDA and the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, is superior in many ways to common Bermuda; and advised P. D. B. (paradichlorobenzene) as a fumigant for ant colonies in Victory Gardens.

Department people

New chiefs in the following divisions of the WFA Office of Materials and Facilities: Fred B. Northrup, Program; David Meeker, Farm Machinery and Supplies; Frank K. Woolley, Processing and Facilities; Russell A. Palen, Packaging and Containers; E. O. Malott, Transportation and Warehousing Facilities; P. H. Groggins, Chemicals and Fertilizers; Ralph E. Arnold, Priorities and Allocations.

Dr. Mohler retires

Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, retires July 31 at the age of 68 after 46 years of service. Honored throughout the world as a scientist and administrator of a bureau that has helped develop the great livestock industry in the United States, Dr. Mohler came up from the ranks. After several years as a field veterinary inspector in the eradication of animal diseases and the Federal meat-inspection service, he was called to Washington to engage in scientific research. In 1917 he became chief of the bureau.

Dr. Adolph Eichhorn, Director of the BAI Animal Disease Station at the Beltsville Research Center, retires October 31 at the age of 68 after 20 years of service. He is internationally known as an animal pathologist and authority on veterinary biological products. On July 1, his colleagues gave him a dinner.

Dr. Walter H. Larrimer and Ivan H. Sims, of the Forest Service, have received red ribbons for blood donations to the Red Cross. Each recently completed his eighth donation, making a full gallon each.

R. E. McDonald, BEPQ, who since 1929 has been in charge of field work in controlling the pink bollworm, has been transferred to Torreon, Mexico, to aid that country in combating this pest.

WFA has appointed Merle E. Drake market administrator of the Federal milk order for the St. Joseph County, Ind., milkshed.

The invasion of Sicily began with the parachute jumpers; and the pioneer work of the Forest Service, which began in 1934 experimental work in delivering fire fighters by parachute, was of great value to the Army in developing its parachute divisions. USDA workers made their first actual jumps in 1939 during tests in the Chelan National Forest. This year 80 Forest Service parachute fire fighters are equipped, trained, and ready to jump in the most inaccessible areas. Ten will operate on the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon, which the Japs last year tried to fire with incendiary bombs. According to best available estimates, it costs only one-eighth as much to suppress forest fires by parachute as by ground crews. Some of this year's parachute crews are selected volunteers from Civilian Public Service camps, who asked for this dangerous and arduous work.

Ed Gallagher, USDA's chief of printing, couldn't get away, but his 15-year-old daughter, Shirley, joined the Women's Land Army and helped save the bean crop on a Maryland farm.

Frederick Carl Lucas, who retired June 30 from Extension after 40

years of service, has been given a citation by USDA Post No. 36, American Legion, for his work in erecting the Department's fine World War I Memorial in the patio. N. A. Pagnotta is post commander.

"Promotions in absentia"

Soil Conservation Service people call them "promotions in absentia." Within the last few months this Department agency has granted promotions to 149 employees who are no longer on the pay roll. They are former employees now on military furlough, fighting for their country.

When in the regular course of events a promotion opportunity develops, the absent employee's personnel file is brought out and considered as carefully as though he were present to talk for himself. If he is entitled to a promotion, he gets it and is notified in the usual way. If he is not entitled to it, he doesn't get it—and better luck next time. But, whichever way it goes, he has not been penalized for wearing the uniform of Uncle Sam.

SCS now has 2.521 men in the Army, Navy, and Marines.

The three J's

If the boss is even more delightful to work for than usual one of these days, he may have taken one of the three J training courses now being offered Government officials through the Training Within Industry Program of the War Manpower Commission. JIT, or Job Instructor Training, is now well established and is even being used by some progressive farmers to train new hands quickly. JMT, or Job Methods Training, encourages employees to find new and better ways of doing their own jobs. JRT, or Job Relations Training, is especially for supervisors, some of whom undoubtedly need it.

In the field, the nearest Training Within Industry office of the WMC will help USDA officials install the three J's in their offices. In Washington, the service is available through the Civil Service Commission. Announcements will shortly go to supervisors in Washington and the field from heads of USDA agencies.

With a view to speeding up the traffic on passenger elevators as well as conserving electric current, John O. Huzzen, BPISAE, suggested that all employees in good health and not physically handicapped use the stairs in traveling up or down one floor. (The Office of Plant and Operations requests everyone to do this.)

Memos

Office of Personnel

Discusses in detail Civil Service regulations on war service appointments, examinations, promotions, transfers, release; contains a priority classification of Federal departments and agencies, as of May 10, and a list of Civil Service branches and regional offices (Circular 120, Revision I).

Washington employees will not be excused because of the heat this year and are requested not to call Personnel, Plant and Operations, or the Weather Bureau about it (P–350).

The circular on permission from Selective Service Boards to leave the continental United States is amended (Circular 100, Revision I, Supplement 19).

Discusses exclusion of certain employees from the retirement act, and service credit toward retirement for employees on furlough or leave without pay (Circular 91, Supplement 14).

In March there were 3 fatalities and 138 injuries on the job (P–351).

Discusses monthly statistical reports on USDA personnel (Form 3527) and annual reports on collaborating personnel (Circular 115, Revision III).

Office of the Secretary

Bureau of Budget circular discusses use and disposition of Federal equipment, materials, and supplies (Memorandum 996, Supplement 12).

The responsibilities of BAE and FCA for agricultural insurance are combined (Memorandum 1092).

The Bureau of the Budget names the Public Roads Administration as a central office for collecting information on government-owned motor vehicles (Memorandum 1091).

War Food Administration

Meat inspection employees are entitled to pay for overtime. The Department will be reimbursed by the establishments requesting them to work overtime (Memorandum 17).

War Boards

The boards received three statements on the meat price rollback (Memorandum 377); details for administering the slaughter permits program (Memorandum 375); a request for semi-monthly reports on slaughter permits (Memorandum 379).

The boards were asked to inform WFA of initial intention to requisition idle farm machinery (Memorandum 378). An FPA order releasing reserves of water systems, windmill pumps, and pump jacks was amended (Memorandum 380). The order establishing the 1944 milk can distribution program was amended (Memorandum 381). Procedures for requisitioning idle farm machinery were amended (Memorandum 357). The boards were asked for opinions on ceiling prices for used farm machinery (Memorandum 376).

The boards were asked to make monthly reports on acreage of crops and number of livestock financed by RACC (Memorandum SD); to appoint a committee on allocations of imported animal and marine proteins (Memorandum SD); to submit all WB corespondence to the War Food Administrator in duplicate (Memorandum 383).

WPB started a program to eliminate errors in making out forms for priority assistance (Memorandum SD); is sending to the State Boards the slide film, The Farmer Takes a Form, for distribution to the County Boards. A new procedure for distributing copper wire for farmstead wiring will be developed (Memorandum 384).

USDA

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LOUISE STANLEY, *Special Assistant to Research Administrator.*
HENRY A. DONOVAN, *Assistant Chief,* BAIC.
WILLARD LAMPHERE, Chief, Division of Information, AAA.
ROY F. HENDRICKSON, *Director,* Food Distribution Administration.
LESTER A. SCHLUP, *Chief,* Division of Extension Information.
RALPH H. ROGERS, *Assistant to Chief,* BAE.
HAROLD F. EISELE, Division of Training.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA August 7, 1943

Making food fight—everywhere

THE Home Front Pledge—I pay no more than top legal prices; I accept no rationed goods without giving up ration stamps—which all housewives are being asked this month to take, is the opening gun in the Government's Over-All Food Campaign.

Thousands of USDA workers in cities and towns across the country find themselves working shoulder to shoulder with representatives of other Government agencies, to get across to the American people the unity of the whole Food for Freedom effort. In so doing, we are under orders not only from the Secretary of Agriculture and the War Food Administrator, but from the Commander in Chief.

Working closely with the local Price and Rationing Boards, USDA workers have an opportunity to explain first-hand to city people what the farmer is up against, what help and kind of help and cooperation he needs. And in the same way, our friends in the Office of Price Administration, through Department people, will have a better opportunity to reach the farmer.

The campaign unfolds

The Over-All Food Campaign, (*USDA*, June 26) as it unfolds will tell the story of food in the war—how it is produced and allocated, how it fights with our armed forces and Allies, and, on the home front, what the average citizen can do to help produce it, conserve it, share it, and use it wisely. The drive to make food fight for freedom will be carried out by action programs involving production goals, Victory Gardens and home food preservation, farm labor recruitment, nutrition and food conservation, rationing and price control, and other phases of food in wartime. Later in the fall will come community mobilizations on a scale not yet attempted, to enroll the help of every citizen in making food fight for freedom. Topflight officials of the Government will join with us; before we are through, not a man, woman, or child in city or country but should understand, at least, what food means in this war and what he can do to help.

WHILE *the over-all food campaign to make foot fight gets under way, work likewise goes forward on plans for "writing the peace" with food. Paul Appleby, U. S. representative on the Interim Commission (see p. 2), has been with the Department since March 1933, first as assistant to former Secretary Wallace, and since September 1940 as Under Secretary. Before Pearl Harbor, he visited the battle zones on Food for Freedom business and again in March 1942.*

Organization

The Home Front Pledge drive will be mapped and executed in each community with the aid of several thousand USDA workers in FDA, Extension, AAA, FSA, and perhaps other agencies represented on the War Boards. The prodcedure is this: The OPA district information offices, of which there are more than 100, will get in touch with the chairmen of the county nutrition committees set up under USDA auspices, with State War Board chairmen, county agricultural agents, and FSA county supervisors. These USDA officials will be invited to cooperate with the community service members of the local War Price and Rationing Boards in setting up community committees which will conduct the drive.

Each of the 6,000 boards has such a community service member, who is a representative of the public chosen in cooperation with local civilian defense councils. USDA workers will find them already acquainted with our Department through the Consumers' Guide, now being sent them. Increasingly, local boards will be in a position to pass on to the public much of USDA's consumer aids and information, as well as the data on price and rationing for which they are already quite well known.

Objectives

A campaign like this could not be run successfully from Washington; it must be organized and sparked locally, and of course will vary somewhat in plan from place to place. But always the essentials will be the same.

The Home Front Pledge drive, which on a trial run in New Orleans lowered the cost of living 5 percent, may be the end of the black market if it succeeds. But stamping out the black market is not a final end in itself. A much greater objective is involved in the over-all campaign of which this is one of the action phases; and not a Department worker but should feel himself an essential part of the larger drive. We are part of it in the office from 9 to

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5:30, in our homes, among our neighbors, standing in line at the grocery.

The degree to which we as individuals understand the work of our Department now becomes tremendously important, because this war duty now rests upon us to help the public understand what food means to our fighting men, Allies, liberated countries, and those about to be liberated; why certain kinds of food must be scarce, why adjustments, increasing from now on, must be made in our ways of eating.

On this understanding among the folks at home, the war may depend, and almost certainly there will depend the peace to follow.

OPA offices, for the file

Alabama—Bell Bldg., Montgomery; Phenix Bldg., Birmingham; *Arkansas*—Commercial Nat. Bank Bldg., Little Rock; *Arizona*—17 West Van Buren, Phoenix; *California*—4th & Jay, Sacramento; 1031 S. Broadway, Los Angeles; 1355 Market, San Francisco; 121 Broadway, San Diego; Patterson Bldg., Fresno; *Colorado*—Kittredge Bldg., Denver; *Connecticut*—55 Allyn, Hartford; *Delaware*—Pa. R. R. Bldg., Wilmington; *District of Columbia*—5601 Conn. Ave., *Florida*—Nat. Bank Bldg., Jacksonville; 608 Tampa, Tampa; *Georgia*—44 Prior NE., Atlanta; 35 Bull, Savannah; *Idaho*—Capital Securities Bldg., Boise; *Indiana*—510 N. New Jersey, Indianapolis; 224 W. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend; *Illinois*—1630 Fifth Ave., Moline; 301 W. Adams, Springfield; 410 S. Main, Peoria; 127 N. Wyman, Rockford; 228 N. La Salle, Chicago; *Iowa*—Liberty Bldg., Des Moines; 5th & Pierce, Sioux City; *Kansas*—York-Rite Bldg., Wichita; *Kentucky*—Kenyon Bldg., Louisville; 152 E. Short, Lexington; *Louisiana*—Triad Bldg., Baton Rouge; Canal Bldg., New Orleans; *Maine*—151 Water, Augusta; *Maryland*—Baltimore Trust Bldg., Baltimore; *Massachusetts*—1597 Main, Springfield; 9 Walnut, Worcester; 10 Post Office Square, Boston; *Michigan*—135 N. Water, Saginaw; Keeler Furniture Bldg., Grand Rapids; 1011 E. Ludington, Iron Mountain; 600 Griswold Ave., Detroit; *Minnesota*—120 N. Fourth Ave., Duluth; First Nat. Bank Bldg., St. Paul; *Mississippi*—Tower Bldg., Jackson; *Missouri*—Paul Brown Bldg., St. Louis; Mutual Interstate Bldg., Kansas City; *Montana*—Main & Grand, Helena; *Nebraska*—City Nat. Bank Bldg., Omaha; Stuart Bldg., Lincoln; *Nevada*—285 S. Virginia, Reno; *New Hampshire*—15 Capitol, Concord; *New Jersey*—20 Washington Place, Newark; 300 Broadway, Camden; 145 E. State, Trenton; *New Mexico*—P. O. Box 1694, Albuquerque; *New York*—535 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C.; 112 State, Albany; Telephone Bldg., Binghamton; 190 Delaware Ave., Buffalo; Temple Bldg., Rochester; Syracuse-Kemper Bldg., Syracuse; *North Carolina*—227 E. Edenton, Raleigh; 730 E. Trade, Charlotte; *North Dakota*—Harvester Bldg., Bismarck; 510 Fourth Ave. North, Fargo; *Ohio*—68 East Gay, Columbus; Union Trust Bldg., Cincinnati; Union Commerce Bldg., Cleveland; Home Bank Bldg., Toledo; 23 N. Sears, Dayton; *Oklahoma*—Key Bldg., Oklahoma City; Petroleum Bldg., Tulsa; *Oregon*—Bodell Bldg., Portland; Main and Esplanada, Klamath Falls; *Pennsylvania*—Blackstone Bldg., Harrisburg; Fulton Bldg., Pittsburgh; Lincoln Trust Bldg., Scranton; Williamsport Nat. Bank Bldg., Williamsport; Commerce Bldg., Erie; New Broad St. Station Bldg., Philadelphia; 12th Ave. & 12th St., Altoona; *Rhode Island*—Hospital Trust Bldg., Providence; *South Carolina*—Liberty Life Bldg., Columbia; *South Dakota*—115 E. Dakota Ave., Pierre; 405½ 8th East, Sioux Falls; *Tennessee*—Stahlman Bldg., Nashville; Sterrick Bldg., Memphis; Daylight Bldg., Knoxville; *Texas*—Lubbock Nat. Bank Bldg., Lubbock; Majestic Bldg., San Antonio; Fort Worth Club Bldg., Fort Worth; Electric Bldg., Houston; 1100 Main, Dallas; *Utah*—Atlas Bldg., Salt Lake City; *Vermont*—Pavilion Hotel, Montpelier; *Virginia*—Schmidt Bldg., Richmond; 29 W. Franklin Rd., Roanoke; *Washington*—1201 Fourth Ave., Seattle; 1023 Riverside, Spokane; *West Virginia*—Peoples Bldg., Charleston; Fidelity Bldg., Wheeling; *Wisconsin*—Fifth Ave. & Jay St., La Crosse; 414 E. Walnut, Green Bay; Plankington Bldg., Milwaukee; *Wyoming*—State OPA Bldg., Cheyenne.

Food begins to write the peace

In conference rooms in the National Archives Building, international experts are now drafting practical steps towards a world which should be in some ways at least an improvement over its predecessor.

The United Nations Food Conference provided for its work to be carried forward by an Interim Commission, of which Under Secretary of Agriculture Paul Appleby is United States representative.

As a first step, the commission elected an executive committee representing 11 nations, large and small: The United States, Canada, Russia, China, Great Britain, Brazil, India, Iraq, Mexico, Netherlands, and Yugoslavia. Mr. L. B. Pearson, of Canada, is chairman. There are two vice chairmen: Mr. P. I. Chtchegoula, of Russia, and Mr. Tsou Ping-Wen, of China.

The executive committee has the duty of naming the chairmen of other committees of the commission and also of choosing a permanent secretariat. Harold Vogel, head of BAE's Program Analysis Division, is serving as temporary secretary. Three committees and their chairmen have already been named; and in the brief outline of their duties observers already see the possibilities of better days to come.

Committee A (Mr. Eurico Penteado, Brazil, chairman, Mr. Kyriakos, Varvaressos, Greece, vice chairman) has the assignment of drawing up *the formal declaration or agreement in which each nation shall (1) recognize the obligation for raising its level of nutrition and standard of living of its own people, (2) improve the efficiency of its agricultural production and distribution, (3) cooperate so far as possible with other nations for the achievement of these ends, and (4) report periodically to other nations on its plans and progress.*

Committee B (Sir Girja S. Bajtai, India, chairman, Mr. Rafael de la Colina, Mexico, vice chairman) will develop *plans and a charter for the permanent international food and agriculture organization, for consideration by the various governments concerned.*

Committee C (Mr. N. P. L. Steenberghe, Netherlands, chairman, Mr. Roberto MacEachen, Uruguay, vice chairman) has the function of developing *such intermin activities as are necessary to help the permanent organization undertake its work without delay, bridging the transition from war to peace.* Committee C will naturally collaborate closely with the proposed international relief and rehabilitation administration.

The ultimate decision must be made by the peoples of the democracies through their governments. This is where we come in.

Program notes

AAA committeemen to bat

Around the first of July, farmers were holding onto their corn, though war industries and feeders needed it badly. So AAA committeemen in the Corn Belt went to work on the problem, telling farmers why the corn should be moved. Result: In 10 days, 6¼ million bushels were bought by warehousemen for the CCC in 6 corn States.

The Crop Corps is working

WFA announced that soldiers are not available for farm work. It looks now as if in most cases the emergency can be met through local mobilization.

As the harvest season approaches, Extension Service has more than 6,000 county and community placement centers helping farmers get the help they need. About 7,000 labor assistants to the county agents have been appointed. A telegraphic survey of the Republic on July 1 showed about half a million placements had already been made by Extension. Previous estimates had placed the emergency farm labor needs for the entire year at about 3,500,000 workers. WFA officials say that the placement of half a million workers during May and June is very much in line with the previous estimate of the need for these months. The greatest farm labor demand comes from July through October.

Allocations for 1943–44

The civilian share of meat for the year beginning July 1, 63 pounds out of every 100, will permit rationing at about present levels. Total supplies, excluding reserves, are estimated at 23¼ billion pounds, of which civilians will get 14¾ billions. Civilian lamb and mutton supplies for the West Coast were increased through larger quotas for local slaughterers. OFAR said Mexico's recent action in restricting live cattle exports to 500,000 head annually would not affect our beef supply, as imports in recent years have not exceeded that number.

Civilians will get nearly 70 percent of the estimated supply of canned vegetables and soups and 53 percent of canned fruits and juices; 3½ billion dozen eggs, or 7 out of every 10 produced; 1,670 million pounds of butter, or 8 out of every 10 produced; 508 million pounds of cheese, or 5½ out of every 10 produced; 30 million cases of evaporated milk, or 4⅓ out of every 10 produced; and 11,300,000 bags of dry beans, or about half the production, and 1,624,000 bags of dry peas, or 179,000 more than were consumed in 1942.

Industry

WFA will buy from certified canners all canned tomatoes, tomato juice, pulp, and paste, sweet corn, snap beans, green peas, lima beans, beets, and carrots offered until mid-1944 at 95 percent of the canner's net ceiling price.

Manufacturers with unused portions of their second quarter fats and oils quotas for civilians may carry them over into the third quarter.

WFA changed regulations on delivery of linseed oil, to provide freer flow of the product; and will issue priority ratings to manufacturers filling military, naval, maritime, and lend-lease contracts for inedible products such as linoleum.

The wheat and flour export program will not be continued this fiscal year; domestic stocks are needed for food and feed here.

Everett Skeels, an 11-year-old farm boy of Charlevoix, Mich., last year canned 536 quarts of fruits and vegetables, enough for a year's supply for the family of five, with a pressure cooker which Mrs. Leanore Dicken, FSA home management supervisor, taught him to use. His sister Bessie had put up 300 quarts the year before. Everett set out to break her record—and he did. Others in the family helped with the picking and digging, but the boy did the canning alone, though he had to stand on a stool to reach the kitchen range.

With his oldest brother in the Army, Bessie working in a Detroit defense plant, and his father and other brothers busy running the family's 80-acre farm, Everett was the only one left to run the household and care for his mother, who is an invalid.

Everett says he's going to try to can 700 quarts this summer.

OPA Actions

Maximum cents-per-pound prices, at country shipper and wholesale points, were set for raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, loganberries, youngberries, and boysenberries. As the berries are sold under a fixed mark-up at retail, prices to consumers will be lower.

Farmers needing fuel oil for equipment may get the necessary rations, regardless of the date the equipment was bought.

Retailers are not allowed to sell "assorted eggs."

OPA regional offices may allot cane and beet sugar to replace corn sweeteners in July-August.

Dollars-and-cents ceilings on wheat millfeeds were set for many additional areas in the West and wholesalers were given separate mark-ups . . . Because of greatly increased demand for meat proteins for poultry feeding, the price regulation on animal-product feeds was revised.

Three-in-one

BEPQ employees who combat blister rust and stem rust are working for victory three ways in one. Besides helping to protect the Nation's food and lumber supply, they are working part time on farms. State leaders in charge of this work have told field supervisors to release employees when urgently needed; in West Virginia, blister-rust control employees are working two or three days each week on farms. And all these BEPQ employees have reported tons of scrap metal—noticed in the course of their work in forests and wooded areas—to collecting agencies.

Department people

Miller new BAI chief

Dr. Arthur W. Miller, who has been assistant chief of BAI since 1928, succeeds Dr. Mohler (retired) as chief. Dr. Miller has been in BAI since 1901, first in the field and since 1917 in Washington.

Working on farms

Washington employees who want to spend their vacations working on farms should register at the District of Columbia U. S. Employment Service office, 501 K Street NW. A special registration blank has been drawn up for Federal employees, who are already registered by the thousands. In other cities, USDA workers interested should likewise register with the nearest USES office; in the rural districts, with the county agent.

FDA will handle distribution of the play, It's Up to You, now that OWI's Domestic Branch is discontinued. Requests for information or the script will be channeled through Washington. Films have been sent to exchanges in cities with regional FDA offices.

Ex-USDA worker in Congress

Brooks Hays, member of Congress from Arkansas, who used to be assistant director of the FSA Rural Rehabilitation Division, recently told the House of Representatives:

"For every administrative officer who is intent upon bypassing Congress there are many more who are eager to follow legislative mandates. I have sat with these men in many informal conferences and I know their point of view. As individuals, they might complain at times, as all Americans do, about their Congressmen's behavior—I hope we never reach the point where that time-honored practice cannot be indulged with complete freedom—but as officials they respect our decisions and bow to our judgments."

Oversight

Through oversight, Vincent D. Nicholson, first deputy administrator of REA, was not listed in the organization chart in the July 10 issue, although newly appointed Deputy William J. Neal was. Emery Jacobs, Mr. Wickard's able assistant, was not listed as he is now assisting the U. S. Army.

Memos

Ask for them by number.

Office of Personnel

Policies on deferment of Department employees were outlined (Circular 137). Field officers were told how to handle field employment (Circular 98, Supplement 8). In April, 4 Department employees died, and 172 were injured in line of duty (P-354).

War Food Administration

Press and radio releases issued by WFA are to be issued in the name of WFA and not FPA or FDA (Memorandum 18). Budgetary and fiscal functions of WFA are under the Deputy Administrator for Management (Memorandum 19).

Office of the Secretary

The Division of Photographic and Duplicating Services of the Office of Information is transferred to the Office of Plant and Operations (Memorandum 1094).

Office of Information

The Office of Information will allot funds to Department bureaus and agencies for job printing and printing administrative instructions for the 1944 fiscal year (not including activities under the Farm Labor Act and WFA). Appropriations for 1944 provide $1,200,000 for Department printing and binding, $100,000 less than for 1943. Mr. McCormick, Information Executive Assistant, handles printing funds.

War Boards

County War Board chairmen were asked to contact local War Price and Ration Boards regarding rationing of pressure cookers (Memorandum 388, Operations 23). Distribution of the cookers, based on areas, was revised (Memorandum 394, Machinery Rationing 108).

Boards received a letter from the Office of the Rubber Director on agricultural tires (Memorandum 393, Transportation 32); and directions for collecting RACC loans (Memorandum 386, Credit 7).

Procedure for assigning AA-2 ratings for lumber was revised (Memorandum 385, Construction 23).

More authority was given to regional WPB offices for farm construction applications (Memorandum 291, Construction 25).

Area supervisors should see that the number of head constituting the butcher's cattle quota is shown on each permit (Memorandum 395, Production 50).

Boards received Form CW-200, application for copper wire for farmstead wiring and power line connection (Memorandum 390, Construction 24, Supplement 1); and were told how to distribute the wire and secure connections (Memorandum 390, Construction 24).

Boards were urged to help provide adequate storage for the record 1943 potato crop (Memorandum SD, Production 50 X). Extension engineers are helping determine construction needs for sweetpotato storage in certain States (Memorandum SD, Production 50 XX).

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA August 21, 1943

Plow that does not break the plains

After several thousand years of modest existence, the turning plow breaks into print as a villain. The July 26 issue of Time credits former County Agent Edward H. Faulkner, author of Plowman's Folly, with the idea that "the plow is a great enemy of man." He has discarded the turning plow for the disk harrow with which he chops up surface stubble of a thick cover crop instead of turning under all the vegetative material on the surface in the traditional way.

Dr. Bennett's views

H. H. Bennett, Chief of SCS, has long favored "stubble mulch" tillage which stirs the soil without turning it completely over, and leaves a protective cover of material on the surface (see picture, *USDA*, June 26).

This is accomplished, not alone by the use of the disk harrow as advocated by Ohio Farmer Faulkner, but also by a number of new-type plows without the traditional moldboard.

"More than 20 models were introduced in a recent single year," says Dr. Bennett. "All have a common aim: To break up and loosen compacted soil, kill weeds, and at the same time leave protective crop residues on the surface of the land." In the year 1927, the vertical disk plow had a considerable sale, according to a history of the plow compiled for BAIC. The action of this machine moves the soil to the side with a stirring motion that leaves stubble on top.

Mack Gowder's experiment

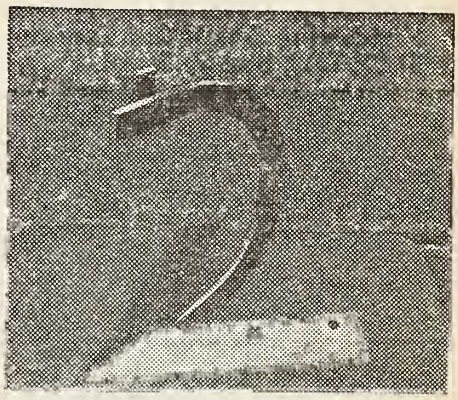
More than 30 years ago, farmers of the wind-swept Great Plains were "gopher plowing" by removing the earth-turning moldboards from their plows, stirring the ground without disturbing the protective cover. Some 10 years later, on a hillside farm in north Georgia, Mack Gowder began experimenting with his own special bull-tongue plow, forging a sharp point to plow through the stubble of crops—whether cotton or corn stalks, or a dense growth of cowpeas—rather than turning everything under. Mr. Gowder has produced 40 to 50 bushels of oats per acre in Hall County, where the average yield is 15 bushels.

At the experiment stations

"Forty years ago," recalls Chief Bennett, "I learned, along with many another soil surveyor, that in dry periods it was much easier in sampling soil to bore a hole in the ground with the soil augur in those places having an accumulation of leaves, straw, or other vegetative litter on the surface than where there was no such covering. The explanation was simple: There was more moisture under the litter, either because evaporation had been reduced or because plants were not pumping the soil dry in their struggle for the moisture of survival.

"The soil and water conservation experiment stations of SCS at Statesville, N. C., and Lincoln, Nebr., have proved by precise measurements that when vegetative litter is maintained on the surface there is much less loss of soil and water than when the ground is left bare."

Dr. Bennett is not so scornful of the moldboard plow as is the author of Plowman's Folly. He believes that there will be a small but important place for the historic implement in terracing, contour tillage, and some other farming practices. While R. B. Gray, chief of the BPISAE Mechanical Equipment Section, believes that stubble-mulch culture has unquestioned advantages, he points out that it is by no means a cure-all. Experiments in the late '30's at Ames,



HE *stirs but does not turn the ground: Note the protective litter left on surface as Mack Gowder, pioneer stubble mulcher of Georgia, plows with his adapted bull-tongue plow. Inset, V-sweep attachment for subsurface tillage, popular in the Northern Great Plains.*

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Iowa, he recalls, compared plowing with disking the soil for corn production. After the first year, yields on the disked portion showed a reduction as a result of increased competition from weeds. There is also the question of pest control, especially the corn borer.

In ably publicizing stubble mulch, Mr. Faulkner (who was agent in Whitley County, Ky., and Gallia County, Ohio, from 1914 to 1920) has pointed to the latest chapter in the history of the plow, which can already be seen in fields all over the country today. Rough land, ragged with stubble, may not look so handsome as cleanly plowed rows with moist, dark earth turned over to the surface. But the understanding observer realizes that the tangle of litter—broken and cut-up leaves, stems, and stalks—serves to protect the land against drying, washing, or blowing away, while retaining nourishing organic matter, part of which eventually becomes mixed with the soil, the zone of the seedbed. Many farmers are showing that this new type of plowing increases yields, conserves rainfall, and helps save the land for a permanent agriculture.

For further details, see Farmers' Bulletin 1917, Stubble Mulch Farming for Soil Defense, published December 1942.

Department people

Col. Philip G. Bruton, WFA Deputy Administrator in charge of the Office of Labor, has named the following staff: Lt. Col. Wilson R. Buie, Corps of Engineers, Assistant Deputy Administrator; George W. Hill, Chief, Program Planning Branch; Mason Barr, Chief, Interstate and Foreign Labor Branch; M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, and M. C. Wilson, Deputy Director of Extension Work, to handle the mobilization of intra-state farm labor; Col. William M. Wilder, Liason Officer; Henry G. Herrell, Executive Officer.

J. S. Russell, FDA Deputy Director, who was on leave of absence from the Des Moines Register and Tribune, has returned to his newspaper work.

Rolin J. Downie, formerly an OBF administrative assistant, is now assistant director of the Department Graduate School.

Ernest G. Moore, formerly BPISAE information chief, is now assistant director of the Department Office of Information, in charge of press and radio. He succeeds Henry Jarrett, Jr., who has left for the Army. Howard Zahniser is acting chief of BPISAE information.

Carleton R. Ball, who entered the Department in 1899, was chief of the BPI Division of Cereal Crops and Diseases from 1918 to 1931, and from 1935 to 1943 was executive secretary of the TVA Coordinating Committee, retired June 30. (This committee is made up of one representative each from the USDA, TVA, and land-grant colleges in the TVA area.)

VFV staff

Irvin H. Schmitt, of Davenport, Iowa, is chief of the Victory Farm Volunteers division of the Extension Service farm labor program. Other VFV staff members are Kenneth W. Ingwalson, of St. Croix County, Wis., and Miss Nancy Blaine, of Winnetka, Ill.

John Cassels, FDA, L. A. Maynard, ARA, and Montell Ogdon, OFAR, have gone to England to discuss food problems with the British Ministry of Food. A Canadian representative also is taking part in the discussions. The Combined Food Board (United States and Great Britain) arranged to have a survey made of food supplies and consumption in the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada.

From the New York office of FDA, F. S. Zimmerman, of the Fruits and Vegetables Division, described one of his time-and-materials saving inventions. In laboratories not equipped with gas, he explains, electric hot plates are used to heat samples of dehydrated foods or flasks of materials. The round flasks having but little surface to contact with the hot plate, much heat is lost and wasted by the exposed surface of the plate. He has devised a simple cone-shaped reflector which concentrates the heat on the flasks or beakers, now used in the New York and Philadelphia laboratories. Other USDA labs, he suggests, may find a use for it.

Verne B. Lewis, assistant to the Finance Director, is Department educational counselor in public administration and for the Graduate School. He replaces L. O. Wolcott, who goes to the State Department.

Hugo W. Alberts, formerly in charge of SCS work in Puerto Rico, has gone to Lima, Peru, as agricultural adviser to the United States ambassador.

Leave

In addition to permissible vacation leave, usually not more than 12 working days during wartime, employees should be permitted to use additional leave to which they are entitled for short periods of absence for personal business at a rate, for example, of a few hours off every two or three weeks. So Mr. William H. McReynolds, Administrative Assistant to the President, has instructed all Federal agencies. The Department has spelled out these instructions, which coincide with its own long-standing policy in regard to annual leave, in Personnel Circular P–357.

Employees who are granted leave on "holidays" must take also the day before and the day after the holiday. We may accumulate annual leave without restriction up to a total of 60 days; thereafter, at the rate of not more than 15 days per calendar year up to a total of 90 days.

Letters to you

Mrs. Vera Durham, WFA, working on the Schoppe farm near Auburn, Maine, during her vacation, wrote us recently:

> I am routed out of bed by Mr. Schoppe at 5:30 in the morning . . . My milk route is the first on my schedule. I back the truck out of the barn to the milkhouse door, load 38 quarts of milk, get my roll of bills and change, and am off down the road to deliver a pint of milk to my first customer—white house on the right. I continue on my route, leaving milk at most every house . . . Then I have breakfast.
>
> After eating, I put on my "chicken clothes" and do the second of my morning's chores. This job of feeding, watering, and gathering eggs from 800 hens and feeding and watering 300 roosters is my dirtiest and least desirable work. The roosters are young and boisterous and I have to keep an eye out or they will tackle me from the rear . . . But the young pullets are a challenge to me. They are just beginning to produce and are temperamental and refuse to lay if they are excited. I knock on their door to ask admittance and stand still until they have relaxed and accepted me . . . The first 2 or 3 days I worked here one of the pullets followed me around and untied my shoe string . . .
>
> We eat at 12. That is our dinner. We have a lighter meal at night after the chores are finished. I tend my flock of chickens at night, help feed the calves, slop the pigs, water the horses, and bottle the milk . . .

The nights are very cool and I don't hear a thing until the knock on my door at 5:30 the next morning. The food is the best, something different each day with plenty of butter, milk, and eggs . . .

They will need girls very badly during August and September because all the college girls will be going back to school.

From the Daily Independent, Murphysboro, Ill.:

The U. S. Forest Service and Local Ranger Thomas Schweigert came in for warm praise when the work of the forestry from start of the flood was reviewed in brief. Ranger Schweigert was credited with working 50 hours without sleep or rest to keep up the forestry's interemergency station telephone system intact and lend all kinds of aid wherever possible.

A two-way portable radio system did incalculable good and with the telephone system maintained contact and control between the directing OCD office here and workers throughout the field. Every man of the Forest Service in the district responded.

Red-ribbon donors

Seven Department people in Washington—three men and four women—have donated blood eight times to the Red Cross Blood Plasma Center, receiving the red-ribbon citation for giving a gallon of blood. They are Ivan Sims, Walter Larrimer, and George Duthie, Forest Service; Catherine Rowland, FDA; Amanda Halford, OFAR; Marie Harris, Solicitor's Office; Penelope Smallwood, BEPQ.

You may save the life of a man in the service by giving one donation—or more. Washington employees should call Miss McFadden, Branch 5530.

Three from the UFWA

Stenographers and Typists Committee, Agricultural Branch, Local 1, UFWA, has made three suggestions: That someone in each unit should acquaint new stenogs with office procedures and policies; that volunteer committees should be set up to help keep busy any stenog who feels she isn't; and that short refresher courses be offered in typing and stenography for new recruits needing them. (Several USDA agencies have long offered such courses.)

Typewriter first aid

Mrs. Audrey Johndreau, Office of Personnel, inventor of the raised typewrited box (*USDA*, June 12), suggests that too many USDA typists wait, sometimes weeks, for the typewriter service men. Minor repairs could be made by someone in each bureau after taking a brief training course in "typewriter first aid." As in Red Cross first aid, the person so trained should learn when not to tinker; when to send for the doctor. The Division of Training will think up a training course.

R. D. Garver, of the Forest Service, suggests that the floor numbers be painted on the inside of elevator doors at each floor level. Numbers are now on the beams between floors, but this is not adequate.

W. R. Yeary, FCA field supervisor, Denton, Tex., proposes that arrangements be made for the Federal Government to accept war bonds in payment of emergency crop and feed loans. Many of the farmers in his section, he reports, now working in defense and allied plants, offer bonds in payment. They dislike the idea of cashing the bonds, necessary under present regulations, even to pay an old debt to the Government.

AAA and BAIC are now in the 90 and 10 war bond club (*USDA*, May 29). This makes 9 Department bureaus having 90 percent of the personnel putting 10 percent of their salaries into bonds.

Program notes

Canning jars from PX's

Annette K. Wilson, FSA home supervisor in Colorado Springs, Colo., arranged with officers in charge of an Army Post Exchange to get all empty glass jars, two and three quart sizes used for fountain fruits. A Kerr or Ball flat will fit the opening. Next, she arranged with the county commissioners for a truck to gather the jars and a place to store them. So far, 200 dozen have been used by FSA borrowers in her county. She reported that the jars are good for canning tomatoes, fruit, pickles, and kraut, but have not been tested for use in pressure cooking.

Removal of currant and gooseberry bushes, which act as "hosts" to the blister-rust fungus, prevents spread of this disease to nearby valuable white pines. The common barberry, often planted as an ornamental, is the host for stem rust, a disease attacking small grains. The Department has greatly reduced stem rust by systematic eradication of barberry bushes during the past 25 years in the 17 States most affected, and by developing rust-resistant varieties of grain. The barberry eradication employees are putting more than 11 percent of their pay into war bond deductions.

Cotton house insulation was developed through the Department's "diversion" program, under which industry was helped to provide outlets for surplus farm products. The Army has now ordered cotton insulation for maintenance building along the Alcan Highway. Thus another USDA activity dating from the days of surplus proves its usefulness after the surplus is gone. Since 1940, the Department has promoted use of low-grade, short-staple cotton, not required for fabrics, as house insulation. Seven firms now manufacture cotton insulation, flame-proofed with an effective chemical solution that also repels rats, mice, and insects, and prevents mildew

Farmers

OPA said it would place a flat ceiling price for live hogs at $14.75 a hundredweight, Chicago basis. This ceiling applies to all grades and weights and assures packers a margin between the price of live hogs and OPA ceilings for wholesale pork cuts and processed pork. Food Distribution Orders affecting meat slaughter and processing were superseded by one over-all system of licensing slaughterers; the support price for hogs is to be extended September 1 to include lighter weights, to help conserve feed supplies.

A U. S.–Canadian agreement permits custom harvesting and threshing equipment to cross the border to help wheat harvesting in the two countries. Farmers in the U. S. will submit orders for equipment to the County War Boards.

WFA authorized farm-machinery manufacturers to distribute up to 40 percent of production, in the year beginning July 1, of items listed for rationing under WPB Order L-257; authorized immediate distribution of lime to farmers in the Northeast.

WFA also announced support prices for dried peaches and pears, raisins and prunes, and cottonseed; and a purchase program for dry peas.

Livestock farmers were urged to protect stock against serious screw worm outbreaks threatening in parts of the South, Southwest, and Southeast.

Secretary Wickard said flood restoration loans to help farmers get their farms back into production were authorized in 314 counties in 12 Midwestern and Southern States.

War Food Administrator Jones said the congressional restrictions on activities of AAA employees are: Informational agents cannot be employed in regional, State, and county offices and no employee shall engage in any promotional or propaganda activities or in any activity designed to influence legislation.

Three types of local committees of farm people who advise on the rural rehabilitation, farm ownership, and debt adjustment services of the FSA are being combined into one, known as the FSA committee.

Changes in the National Poultry Improvement Plan concern agents for flock selecting and pullorum testing, advertising of hatcheries, and simplification of administration.

Industry

The order requiring federally inspected packers to set aside 50 percent of their weekly lard production for Government purchase was suspended. Essential war industry will get preference over other users in getting tallow and grease.

The CCC will buy 300,000,000 pounds of 1943 flue-cured tobacco and small quantities of Burley and dark tobacco for lend-lease and private export, for military and civilian needs in British Empire countries. Future-contract purchases of almost all types of cigar filler and binder tobacco of the unharvested 1943 crop is frozen until August 31.

WFA decreased the percentages of cheese and butter reserved for Government purchase in August-October.

Processors must set aside the remaining oilseed meal from 1942 crops of soybeans, cottonseed, and peanuts for purchase of the CCC. The amount of beef meeting Army specifications which federally inspected slaughterers must set aside was reduced. Sugar Orders FDO 7 and 7.1 were amended. The Tea Industry Advisory Committee proposed a simplified plan of tea chest markings to replace a British system now in use.

WFA asked the support of growers, ginners, farm organizations, and cotton trade associations in a program to improve the 1943 cotton crop through better handling and ginning; urged large increases in production of peanut butter and oil from the 1943 crop of farmers' peanuts, expected to be 375,000 tons larger than last year; announced a list of foods which no longer can be stored in refrigerated warehouses.

The WPB approved resumption of construction of 19 irrigation projects in 12 Western States, including dams, extension of irrigation canals, etc.

WFA transferred the WPB malt conservation order to the FDA and added new provisions.

Civilians

It seems obvious, but it may need pointing out occasionally that anyone—farmer, middleman, wholesaler or retailer—is at liberty to buy or sell food below *the ceiling price, anywhere, anytime!*

The National Food Situation (BAE) said 1943 food production probably will exceed the record 1942 production by 4 percent and the 1935–39 average by 31 percent. This estimate is based on the July crop report, average weather for the rest of the year, and continuation of the present trend in livestock production.

OPA issued a new table of point values for processed foods, effective August 1. . . . Forty-four pounds apiece of fats and oils will be available for civilians during the 12 months ending June 30, 1944.

The Department issued pointers on glass jars in home canning; advised against oven canning and canning powders; and described the salting or brining method of preserving vegetables, developed by the Department and the N. C. Experiment Station.

The WFA in a public meeting proposed that white flour for human consumption be further enriched to improve our nutrition level . . . Food Distribution Order 71, effective August 2, prohibits the sale of turkeys for civilians, until military needs overseas are met.

Memos

Office of Personnel

Field employment officers received further instructions for handling field employment (Circular 98, Supplement 9).

Reports on employees who leave positions in which they have been deferred must be made to the Department Committee on Deferment of Government Employees (Circular 137, Supplement 1).

Schedule A–IX–26, concerning technical or professional advisors, was clarified (Circular 99, Revision I, Supplement 3).

Circular 115, June 15, on the monthly employment report, was amended (Circular 115, Revision III, Supplement 3).

General Departmental

Discusses publication of documents in the Federal Register (Circular 1).

Authorizes the Solicitor and Associate Solicitors to execute releases of liability regarding damage (Circular 2).

War Boards

Discusses WFA policy regarding critical materials for new land development (Memorandum 398, Supplies 37).

Contains Food Distribution Order 69, to prevent the use of certain fruits in the manufacture of alcoholic products, unless the fruit is unsuitable for human consumption or no market is available for it except as an alcoholic beverage (Memorandum 399, Production 52).

Boards must send complete weekly reports of local slaughter to the War Meat Board, Chicago (Memorandum 396, Production 51). Milton C. Gay will work with the boards on a program for marketing and storing sweetpotatoes (Memorandum SD, Production 50XXX). County boards need not continue reports on crops and livestock financed by the RAAC (Memorandum 400, Credit 8).

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA September 4, 1943

The farm program changes, but continues

As a result of Acts of Congress, two major Department agencies were greatly affected and a third was eliminated. All Department employees should note their status.

Basic change in AAA

In recent years, there have been two distinct parts to the agricultural conservation programs of the AAA. Under the crop-adjustment phase, acreage allotments based on predicted needs have been set for basic crops—corn, cotton, peanuts, rice, tobacco, wheat. The extent of the farmer's cooperation with these allotments has determined the amount of his adjustment payment. Under the conservation phase, the farmer has received payments for carrying out specific soil-conserving or soil-building practices on his farm.

Under the 1943 program, payments also depend on the goals for special war crops such as soybeans, flaxseed, and peanuts. For the 1943 conservation program, $400,000,000 is appropriated, a reduction of $44,000,000 from 1942.

The Agricultural Appropriation Act for 1944 provides not more than $300,000,000 for the program, and specifies that the funds shall be used only for soil and water conservation practices, to increase and maintain the productivity of the land. Acreage allotments will not be used in 1944 to measure performance or payments to farmers. In some areas, the entire program may consist of furnishing materials and services. In other areas, payments will also be made for carrying out other practices such as strip cropping, summer fallow, and range improvement in the Great Plains.

The Act makes no provision for parity payments for 1943 and 1944 crops. For 1942, $170,281,000 was appropriated for this purpose. These payments have been made to producers for several years to more nearly balance actual returns from basic crops with parity prices. (Parity price means a price for the farmer's product which gives it an exchange value, for things the farmer needs to buy, equivalent to that in a specific base period, usually the 5 pre-war years 1910–1914.) At present, prices for most farm products have reached parity.

Farm Security today

Congress has left the Farm Security Administration free to continue, on

AFTER *attending the AAA's Master Institute for Job Instructor Training, these officials were qualified to train supervisors in JIT methods in Washington and the field. AAA has already scheduled training meetings for several State offices. Other interested USDA agencies should consult the Office of Personnel, Division of Training, USDA. Rear center—James E. Crawford, Civil Service Commission; Elizabeth Swadley, AAA Northeast Division. Left—Eugene Dahl, Treasury Department; Katherine McChesney, AAA Southern Division; Andrew J. McCollum, AAA Fiscal Management; Robert Crawford, Veterans Administration; William M. Lightsey, AAA Southern Division. Right—Evelyn Warfield, AAA North Central Division; Charles T. Myers, AAA Information; Louis Fortson, AAA Fiscal Management; E. W. Bayol, AAA East Central Division; Robert Ensslin, Civil Service Commission.*

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a somewhat reduced scale and within certain restrictions, the greater part of its basic program. Loans for rural rehabilitation and for farm ownership, both directed toward increased food production, won approval on the floor of House and Senate.

The FSA was authorized to borrow $60,000,000 from the RFC for rehabilitation loans, and received a direct appropriation of $20,000,000 for operating expenses—reductions of about 38 and 52 percent, respectively, from the amounts provided for the fiscal year just ended. The new tenant-purchase loan authorization of $30,000,000 and direct appropriation of $1,326,070 for administrative expense are only slight reductions from last year.

Because a select committee of the House (the Cooley committee) is expected to introduce basic legislation on the Farm Security program during this session, Congress provided that during the first four months of the current year, the appropriated funds may be spent at a rate greater than one-twelfth a month, thus relieving to some extent the effect of the reductions.

Nevertheless, all possible economies will be necessary, and studies are now in progress to determine how they can be made with least interference with essential services. In order to maintain as many county offices as possible, national and regional offices will have to absorb a heavier proportion of personnel reductions.

Meanwhile, the major part of the FSA program is going forward without interruption. Most of the loans for this year's production were made out of last year's appropriations, and these borrowers, aided by county supervisors, are expecting to make substantial increases over last year's record production. The reduced loan funds available for the current year will be used in such a way as to produce the greatest possible increase in essential crops.

New restrictions prevent the making of loans to cooperative associations or to individuals for the purchase of shares in cooperatives, though the language of the act seems to indicate that loans may still be made to individual farmers to participate in informal group services such as bull rings, spray rings, and machinery pools. Another provision sets a limit, for each county, on the amount of funds which can be used for tenant-purchase loans. Another prohibits the use of rehabilitation funds for the lease or purchase of land.

The liquidation of resettlement projects will continue according to plans under the terms of the act.

As a result of administrative changes put into effect by the War Food Administration following passage of Public Law 45, the FSA no longer conducts a part of the agricultural labor program. Regional directors of FSA have been designated regional directors of the WFA Office of Labor. All FSA personnel engaged full time in labor activities are being detailed to the Office of Labor, and all engaged in this work part time are being detailed in addition to their other duties. FSA personnel is being used principally in the transportation of interstate and foreign workers.

FCIC liquidates

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is in process of orderly liquidation following action by the 78th Congress. Liquidation affects positions held by 473 corporation employees as of June 19, 132 of whom were employed in the Washington office, 276 in the four branch offices, and 54 as temporary employees, as well as a number of AAA employees working on the crop insurance program.

In 1939, its first year in wheat, and 1942, its first in cotton. FCIC all-risk crop insurance protected slightly more than 11 percent of the commercial wheat and cotton farms. In its last or 1943 program, more than 30 percent of the commercial wheat farms were covered and about 12 percent of the cotton farms.

Income and outgo

The total income of the corporation, for administrative expenses and for payments of indemnities to date, was 65 million dollars. Indemnities totaling approximately 57 million dollars were paid wheat and cotton farmers, and of this sum, through payment of premiums, farmers contributed 35 million dollars. These benefits went to 450,000 cotton and wheat farmers.

The Government invested a substantial sum—about 30 million dollars—in the corporation's pioneering efforts to establish an insurance program that eventually would pay its way. No small part of this investment is represented in the cost of establishing rates and yields on 1,556,000 cotton allotment farms in 1,028 counties in 19 States and about 1,500,000 wheat allotment farms in 2,017 counties in 36 States.

From year to year, costs were steadily reduced and the program refined in the corporation's endeavor to balance premiums and indemnities. Probably the most significant changes were from the one-year to a three-year contract on wheat; increases in premium rates where necessary; reduction of branch offices from seven to four—two in the Cotton States and two in the major wheat areas—and a reduction in the handling of each insured unit.

Turkey in the trench

Miss Sophia Podolsky, of FDA, asked a service man wearing stripes on his sleeve where he was last Thanksgiving and what he ate for dinner.

"New Caledonia," he said, "and we ate the same as yesterday and tomorrow—beans and bully beef."

This year the story will be different. Already the armed forces have obtained 1,700,000 pounds of turkey, almost enough to cover the proposed mid-September quota of 2 million pounds for distant fighting zones. To the farmer, FDA said: Sort your birds now, speed them along a feed line so that 10 million pounds can be sent overseas in time for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year dinners. To the processor: Over 34,090 boxes by September 15 for distant outposts; more than 34,090 boxes by the end of September for closer bases. To the consumer: Wait for Thanksgiving for your turkey; there'll be plenty for you and them. The armed forces are asking for only 2 percent of the year's crop.

So strongly did the Army feel about turkey for the three major holidays that an FDA order, effective August 2, prohibited the sale, purchase, or processing of live or dressed turkeys except as authorized by the Government. No farmer can sell to anyone except a processor who can show a contract with the Army. No one can dress a bird except in fulfilling an Army contract. An amendment to the turkey order now prohibits civilian use of storage turkeys for the duration of the order.

Graduate School adds R. F. D. degree

Correspondence study courses will be available to field employees when the Graduate School opens its 22nd year on September 27. Courses available include Federal Personnel Procedures; Federal Administrative Management; Comparative World Agriculture; The Department of Agriculture—Its Origin, Structure, and Functions; Foundation Methods of Presentation; Statistical Methods in Biology and Agriculture; and Least Squares.

Field employees are invited to write to the Graduate School or to the personnel office or educational counselor of their bureau for further information. Through arrangement with the association of universities offering correspondence work, the Graduate School will also send to the inquiring employee information as to institutions offering courses in other subjects, the cost, and credit carried.

The Graduate School could secure enrollment for many times the correspondence courses offered, but it wants to go slow, acquire experience, and do a thoroughly effective job. Fees are the same as those for courses in residence, with a small extra charge for the cost of correspondence. The courses will be highly personalized and—with the exception of two in statistics—will use material developed expressly for them. They may be entered at any time; must be completed within a year after registration. They carry credit. The Department Library is cooperating closely and is stocking its branches in the field with reference material to be used in the work.

Started by Henry C. Wallace

On September 27 the Department's Graduate School opens with some 275 courses listed for fall and spring semesters. From its humble beginning in 1921 under former Secretary Henry C. Wallace, father of the Vice President, the school has grown into an institution which last year enrolled more than 6,700. It constantly endeavors to gear its program as closely as possible to current and probable future needs of Federal employees. Included in the curriculum this year are more than 75 new courses—in public administration (counseling, safety, Federal administrative management, psychological aspects of personnel administration); languages (everything from Arabic to Malay); social sciences; regional studies; and many others.

The school chooses its faculty from the outstanding men and women in the Government service. Thus the soil scientist may study under Charles Kellogg; those interested in budget sit under the dean of Government budget men, William A. Jump; personnel workers may study placement testing under the man in charge of personnel research for the War Department; the stenographer may try to get her speed up to 175 words or more under the tutelage of the official White House reporter; and the student of traffic management may study under an outstanding transportation expert, G. Lloyd Wilson, of the University of Pennsylvania.

The Graduate School Announcement may be secured from Room 1031, South Building, by mail or in person.

Warning from FBI

Posters by now have gone to Department offices in Washington and the field, with a caution from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to notify the nearest FBI office of evidence of sabotage or suspected enemy agents, to watch out for those who spread enemy propaganda, and to avoid repeating vicious rumors or whispers. Now that the United States is taking the offensive on all fronts, loose talk is doubly dangerous.

To these Government-wide precautions, and to the Nation-wide warnings against even the slightest discussion of troop movements, war industry, or shipping, the Department of Agriculture adds a special word of caution to its employees. We are deeper in the war in our own work than we realize.

USDA knows a lot

Many of us are engaged in work which touches directly or indirectly matters of military security. Thousands of employees in the WFA are concerned with lend-lease purchases and shipping arrangements. CCC buys strategic materials from abroad. Laboratories in the scientific bureaus of the ARA and Forest Service are engaged in research which—even if not apparently military in character—could furnish clever enemy spies with valuable clues. REA lines run to purposely remote war plants. FSA and Extension people deal with farmers and the Army in the matter of military-land acquisition and resettlement. The enormous aerial photography project of the AAA and SCS cartographic units are engaged on military work of great importance. At dozens of points in the day's work, the State and County War Boards may be in touch with Army activities.

Think twice before talking. Take seriously the "confidential" or "secret" notice on official papers. Lock 'em up.

Little things that count

As a general rule, what may safely be said of the Department's part in these and other matters will be printed in the newspapers. What else you may have learned in the course of the day's work, in letters from friends in the service or from outside contacts, keep to yourself.

As the Army has often pointed out, it is by putting together random bits of seemingly irrelevant information, scraps of overheard conversation, that enemy agents are sometimes able to learn the sailing date of a ship or its destination.

Few of us will ever have the opportunity to betray a secret code. But each USDA employe in Washington and the field in the course of a year's work may come across little items which might help to supply the enemy with information equally useful.

No, we can't even talk about the weather.

Playlet available

USDA Clubs looking for an outlet for their dramatic talents might be interested in putting on a lunchtime playlet on this subject, I Didn't Think, available on request from Miss Catherine Lanham, Office of War Information, Washington. It was written for OWI by the American Theater Wing.

Former SCS employees now in the Army and Navy get regular letters from division chiefs with welcome news about their jobs and former associations. Corp. Bruno A. Zucollo wrote his division chief from Fort Sill, Okla.:

> I'm sure I speak for all who received them when I say that I got a tremendous glow of warmth from reading those letters.

Department people

Three more stars

Three more Department employees (*USDA*, June 26) have died in defense of their country in World War II:

Robert A. Young, REA
Clifford H. Wayland, SCS
Woodrow Stockton, FSA

T. M. Campbell, Negro Extension field agent, who has been with the Department for 37 years, is beaming with pride. He was informed that his son, Lt. William A. Campbell, a flyer of the Army Air Forces, played an important part in the capture of Pantelleria. Lt. Campbell had the honor of being the first in his squadron to drop a bomb on the Axis-held island.

Pvt. Albert B. Gerber, on military furlough from REA, was recently named as the writer of one of the four best articles submitted by service men on "What I am Fighting For" in a contest sponsored by the Service Men's Christian League. His article was reprinted in the July 24 Saturday Evening Post.

Twice decorated

Lt. Manuel E. Vincente, a Puerto Rican formerly with the AAA office in San Juan, P. R., has been awarded the Medal of the Purple Heart and the Aviation Silver Star for bravery under fire in the North African campaign. Lt. Vincente is a bombardier with the U. S. Air Forces.

Assistant Secretary Grover B. Hill is serving also as assistant administrator in WFA. Stanley P. Williams is assistant to Secretary Wickard, taking over the duties of E. J. Overby, now in the service.

Comments by David Diggs, whose elevator frequently takes Secretary Wickard and Judge Jones to their offices: "Used to be they give the soldiers hard tack while the folks at home had fried chicken. Now it looks like we're going to get the hard tack and the soldiers get the chicken It's all right with me . . . And they used to say the Japanese ate raw fish. From what I see in the papers the fish is eating raw Japanese. That's all right with me, too."

George L. Crawford, formerly in charge of SCS work in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, has been appointed by the Institute of Inter-American Affairs to work with Venezuelan agriculturists on growing more food for home consumption.

Philip L. Green, OFAR, has been appointed executive editor of Agro-America, new quarterly publication of the recently organized Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences and the American Society of Agricultural Sciences. The publication will contain articles in the four official American languages—English, Spanish, Portuguese, French.

Robert L. Hill is assistant to Director of Personnel Reid, succeeding Joseph P. Findlay, now in the service. Bernard A. Neary takes the place of William C. Laxton, also in the service, as chief of the Personnel Division of Classification.

Forest fire fighters

David P. Goodwin, assistant chief of fire control in the Forest Service and national coordinator of the Forest Fire Fighters Service, reports that enrollment of volunteers in the FFFS is now over 185,000. Recruiting in this civilian forest-protection service, organized under OCD, is still going on. State FFFS coordinators have been appointed in 43 States, and approximately 3,400 local coordinators assist in organizing and training local fire-fighter groups.

Ninety and ten

FCA is the tenth Department agency to sign up "90 and 10" for war bond deductions. Field workers, as well as those in Washington, have helped to put their agencies over the top. AAA employees in the Southern Region, for instance, have a fine record: More than 97 percent are putting over 12 percent of their salaries into bonds.

Suggestion by Gordon W. McBride, ARA, submitted as the best July entry in the Washington Post contest: That employees get with their pay a slip showing the base pay, overtime, deductions for retirement, income and victory taxes, war bonds, etc. This idea was referred to the Bureau of the Budget, which was already studying the matter.

Maurice D. Atkin, FDA Dairy and Poultry Branch, suggests that USDA workers in Washington take care to call other Government departments by the direct code numbers, listed on the front cover of the USDA phone book. Code numbers are quicker, save the harassed Federal switchboards unnecessary work.

Comment on suggestions

It has now been almost a year since the first employee suggestions were printed in USDA. Suggestions for doing the daily job better have ranged from the re-use of large manila envelopes to bold policy suggestions requiring congressional action. Many have been placed in operation. Good ideas have come from both Washington and the field; contrary to what might be expected, the field employees have perhaps shown a broader range of interest than those in Washington.

There is no time limit on making suggestions. Let off steam on anything; if the idea has merit, it will be considered, and in any case it will be acknowledged. Each bureau has an official designated to receive them.

Henry F. Shepherd transfers from assistant chief, Division of Organization and Personnel Management, to assistant to the Director of Personnel.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

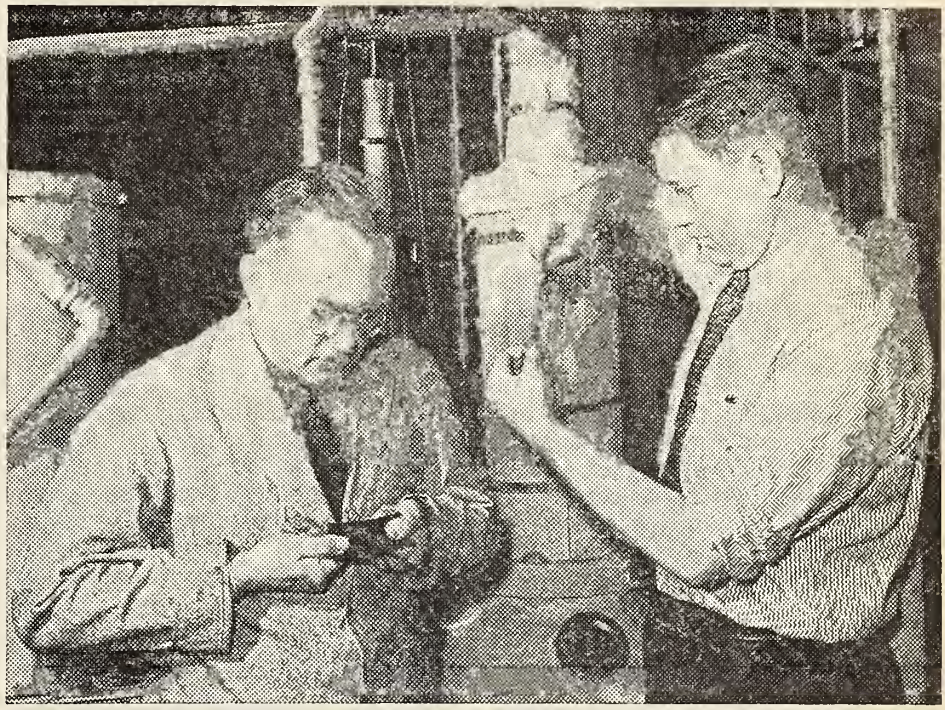
USDA September 18, 1943

War and peace in the laboratories

SCIENTIFIC knowledge is elastic and adaptable. Research is invaluable during peace or when we are at war. The same pool of information and the same methods serve us at all times.

During the late 1930's there was agitation about finding new industrial uses for farm products and byproducts. As a result, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 authorized the establishment of four large Regional Research Laboratories to do research along these lines.

These laboratories were finally located at Peoria, Ill., New Orleans, La., Philadelphia, Pa., and Albany, Calif., the Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western Laboratory, respectively. Their staffs comprise more than a thousand persons, of whom at least half are highly trained chemists, physicists, engineers, and other scientists. These laboratories, originally built for peacetime research, are now wholly devoted to war projects.



IN *searching for rubber substitutes, USDA chemists have developed a rubberlike substance, Norepol, from vegetable oils. Dr. John C. Cowan and H. M. Teeter, of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory, show how far Norepol will stretch. It has a 200-percent stretch, as compared with the 600-percent stretch of real rubber.*

Origins

The laboratories are operated by the present Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry of ARA. This bureau was created in February 1943, when work in agricultural engineering was combined with that in plant industry.

The real nucleus of the laboratories may properly be said to have been the first chemist of the Department, Charles M. Wetherill, appointed by its first Commissioner, Isaac Newton, in 1862, when the Division of Chemistry was established. The old Bureau of Chemistry was created in 1901, and in 1938 was combined with the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering (established 1931) to become the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering.

Research is now under way in the Regional Research Laboratories on some 150 projects directly connected with the industrial use of agricultural products in the war effort. These include work on the following: Rubber, rubber substitutes, industrial alcohol, smokeless powder, plastics, industrial proteins, essential drying oils, synthetic fibers, the rot-proofing of sandbag material, rubberless cotton fire hose, the preservation of vegetables by dehydration and freezing, substitutes for cork and for palm and other oils formerly imported, the conservation of leather, increasing the output of the new wonder drug, penicillin, and so on.

Up north

For example, the Northern Laboratory has produced a rubber substitute from soybean oil, though linseed, cottonseed, and perhaps other vegetable oils can be used. This product has been named "Norepol" from the first two letters of NOrthern and REgional and the first three of the magnificent word, POlymerization, which means changing simpler compounds into complex ones that contain the same elements in the same proportions, but have higher molecular weights and different physical properties. That is the way rubber and many other important substances like plastics are built up.

The Northern Laboratory has also developed a new type of lignin plastic which can be made from farm wastes and used to replace metal for many purposes. It likewise found a way to induce a mold to increase its yield of penicillin, said to be the greatest therapeutic discovery since the sulfa drugs.

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Down south

The Southern Laboratory has recently developed a substitute for imported palm oil. It is a properly hydrogenated cottonseed oil, an oil treated with hydrogen which thereby becomes a hardening oil. The discovery has given the tin and steel industries a tailor-made substitute actually better in many respects than the original article from the Dutch East Indies. Industry is interested in this finding just as it is in Norepol, of which more than 70 tons a month is now being manufactured. The Southern Laboratory has also developed in finely cut lint cotton a substitute for cotton linters for making smokeless powder.

East and west

The Eastern Laboratory perfected apple sirup, now in large-scale commercial production. The tobacco industry uses this as a substitute for glycerine in curing and conditioning certain types of tobacco—see the advertisements! Production of 15 to 20 million pounds is anticipated this year. The product can be made from any grade of "juice" apples, as well as from waste peels and cores from canning and dehydrating plants.

The Western Laboratory's biggest contribution to date is in the field of the dehydration of food, vegetables in particular. This problem was tackled in large-scale pilot plants or semicommercial size machines, built and operated right in the laboratory, which gave a third of its space to this project. Schools were held also and operators were given instructions. All the Regional Laboratories are equipped for both test-tube and pilot-plant experimentation, which makes them intensely practical.

Everywhere—all the time

Research carries on, peace or war. The pool of scientific knowledge is available for us to draw upon at any time. Many scientific developments, the history of which trails far back into forgotten laboratories and through the lives of skilled investigators long since dead, now stand us in good stead as we fight the greatest war in our history. When peace and victory come, however, we shall have learned many valuable things in these Regional Research Laboratories which will enrich our lives in the post-war world.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL—30 percent of your month's salary in war bonds!

USCC aids harvest

USDA people throughout the country are doing their share in harvesting the crops where emergency labor is needed. Many agreed to give up vacations, or to work on farms after hours or on Sundays. They are working in the hayfields, picking apples, shucking corn, and doing many other harvest jobs.

The emergency mobilization is under the county agents, who for the past few months have organized their forces to meet the harvest demand. Neighborhood leaders in many places helped to make a house-to-house survey, taking the names of persons who would volunteer to help. Records were made of the help each farmer would need and when he would need it. These are invaluable now that the big harvest push is on. By September 1 it was estimated that 1,600,000 placements had been made on farms by extension agents.

Everyone pitches in

Several farm crises were successfully overcome. The Kansas wheat harvest was a big problem 2 months ago but was completed without appreciable loss of the State's 150,000,000-bushel crop—one-fifth of the Nation's wheat supply. Thousands of emergency volunteer workers pitched in to do jobs formerly handled by experienced harvest hands.

In August the spring-wheat area of North Dakota—representing another fifth of the country's wheat supply—was ready for harvest but with not enough workers in the State. So extension agents in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Alabama got busy; and 3,500 farm workers were found to help. Over a thousand were moved from Arkansas, and 650 from Mississippi, to North Dakota; and 200 from Alabama to Ohio. Most of these helped with the wheat harvest; those who went to Ohio did general farm work; and some who went to Wyoming aided with the haying. All returned in time for the southern cotton picking.

WFA officials say this South-to-Midwest movement of farm workers is a good example of the cooperation and understanding between the States and a tribute to the good work of all cooperating agencies. The southern workers supplemented the all-out local mobilization and the work of some 5,000 soldiers. All together, they harvested the spring wheat.

"Cotton picking days"

This month the big jobs are cotton picking and corn harvesting in the South. On "cotton picking days" everyone—office workers, clerks, school children, housewives—goes out to pick cotton. The sugarcane and rice areas of Louisiana and Texas, the truck crops of New York and New England, the fruit and vegetable crops of the Pacific coast, and the potatoes of Maine, Idaho, North Dakota, and Minnesota are critical harvest-labor crops and require an army of emergency workers.

Everyone who has time to contribute is needed. The farm-labor program is under the WFA Office of Labor, and placement of farm workers is handled through county agents. In some larger cities, recruitment is in charge of the U. S. Employment Service under contractual agreement with State Extension Services.

You and USDA

FROM what the editor hears, *USDA* is far from a perfect employee magazine. "They say" it is too feebly humorous, too corny, too dry, too filled with things employees already know, and so on. Why is that? If *USDA* is not what it should be, perhaps the editors are not wholly at fault. Possibly you working readers have let it down.

For *USDA* is not the mouthpiece of an editor, or of an editorial board here in Washington. As War Food Administrator Jones said recently, when speaking about farm food production, Washington is not omniscient and omnipotent. It is the human beings in the far reaches outside of Washington who make vastly increased food production possible. It is the individual employees alone who can make *USDA* what they would like it to be.

This means active, not passive, cooperation. It does not refer so much to the casual remark that the publication is good or bad, but to suggestions for improvement and to actual contributions, especially from the field.

What do *you* think?

What do *you* like about *USDA?* What do you dislike? What have you seen in it of which you would like to see more? What do you wish no longer to appear therein? Will *you yourself* send contributions?

You ask: What kind of contributions? Maybe the following will help, but these are only suggestions, remember. We, speaking editorially, should like to see more:

Items about meritorious jobs done by Department people, interesting and unusual jobs, possibly involving merit promotions. The accounts must be brief but full of facts. Tell us also about interesting people, but remember the job, the function, the activity is always of primary importance; get to the bureau, agency, division, or person via the route of his or her useful or unusual departmental activity.

It is always the job that makes a person newsworthy, rather than his administrative status. Possibly there is room likewise for a department of much briefer items under some such heading as "Take a Bow." Any nominations?

Other things we'd like

We should also like items concerning peacetime activities which proved to have enormous wartime value. For instance, the Army before the invasion of Sicily found in the Department Library, in an uncut volume of Soil Surveys, the only available topographical map it required for intelligent action. Again, new and better methods of insect control have arisen out of long years of peacetime research; adapted to needs of the armed forces they have proved invaluable. It is just as true that research in chemistry and economics and other sciences carried on in the Department have borne such fruit.

There is need, also, in view of our rapid turn-over—which may be expected to continue for some time after the war—for items that inform employees briefly about lines of work being carried on in the Department, and their interrelationships with other, often older, lines. This helps make each employee an information specialist capable of answering questions sometimes asked critically by friends and acquaintances. Perhaps significant lines of activity should be given in greater detail with a bit more emphasis on background and interrelationships than hitherto in Program Notes.

Another suggestion is that there be a series of brief articles on the origin, development, and present activities of various functional lines of the Department's work. These would serve to inform both old and new employees. They would have to be brief, however, like everything else in *USDA*—unless you make it good enough to merit increased size—and should cover only the significant facts, without great historical detail. The present wartime status of such activities should be stressed especially.

Now what would *you* do? What would *you* suggest?

Most important of all, whoever and wherever you are, will you make it your business to see that some wide-awake worker there becomes the channel through which items are sent to the editor of *USDA regularly* and *dependably?*

Brief but important

WFA and State War Boards

On August 26 there was established in the War Food Administration an Office of War Board Services under the supervision of a Director, William L. Nelson having been designated to assume the job. All communications between the WFA and the State War Boards will be channeled through this office. Where policy or matters of unusual importance are concerned, communications from the WFA to the boards will be prepared for the Administrator's signature, the Office of War Board Services having responsibility for clearance through others than the originating agency in WFA. All other communications will be prepared for the signature of the Director of War Board Services. The new office will also receive all communications from the State War Boards and transmit these to the officials of WFA interested therein.

The National War Board of the WFA was established, effective September 1. Its principal function is to consider and recommend to the War Food Administrator whether specific programs shall be administered through the State and County War Boards, or through one or more of the agencies represented on the National War Board, the members of which are: Assistant to the Administrator, in charge of War Board Services, chairman; Chiefs of the AAA, BAE, FS, and SCS; Directors of Extension Work, Food Distribution, and Information; Administrators of the FSA and REA; President of the CCC; Governor of the FCA; and the Solicitor.

FSA and small co-ops

We spoke last issue of changes in the FSA program. The 1944 Appropriations Act specified that FSA could not make loans to cooperative associations, or to individuals to pay dues to, or to buy stock in, any co-ops—except for medical, dental, or hospital services. By ruling of the Solicitor, however, FSA will continue to make loans to low-income farmers in about 18,000 neighborhood groups for joint ownership of group services to further the war food-production program. Joint ownership services and master borrower loans continue. Small producers may still group together to purchase farm machinery, purebred sires, and other services they could not afford to purchase individually.

WFA has established seven regional offices under the Office of Labor. The regions, headquarters, directors, and States are:

Region 1—Upper Darby, Pa., Maurice E. Hays, acting, Conn., Del., Maine, Md., Mass., N. H., N. J., N. Y., Pa., Vt., R. I.; *Region 2*—Montgomery, Ala. (director not announced), Ala., Fla., Ga., Ky., N. C., S. C., Tenn., Va., W. Va.; *Region 3*—Indianapolis, Ind., Kenneth Butler, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Mich., Minn., Mo., Ohio, Wis.; *Region 4*—Dallas, Tex., William A. Canon, Ark., La., Miss., N. Mex., Okla., Tex.: *Region 5*—Denver, Colo., Charles F. Miller, acting, Colo., Kans., Mont., Nebr., N. Dak., S. Dak., Wyo.; *Region 6*—San Francisco, Calif., William A. Anglim, Ariz., Calif., Nev., Utah; *Region 7*—Portland, Oreg., R. T. Magleby, Oreg., Idaho, Wash.

The Department Library last month started a new service, a monthly Bibliography of Agriculture. The first issue lists over 4,000 books and articles. It is available free to Federal, State, and other public agencies and by subscription ($3.75 a year) from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Food side lights

A side light on FDO 1, the pioneer food order that forbids the sale of bread on consignment and provides for enrichment, is the development of an inhibitor of mold and rope (a bacteria-produced bread disease). Besides being fortified, bread can be rot and rope free if the baker adds calcium and sodium propionate to the bread mix.

Yeast-Steak?

Yeast is a live topic on the home front as well as on the fighting front, which gets a lot of yeast powder and tablets. Time, for August 9, reported that a batch of yeast, molasses, ammonia, water, and air came out later as "good, rich steak." Though the Department says reports of "yeast-steak" are much exaggerated, developments in production of such a low-cost source of protein as yeast are worth watching. Commercial companies are experimenting with new primary yeasts and "debittered" yeast, the latter a byproduct rich in vitamins.

Of some 33,000,000 pounds of brewer's yeast produced annually in making beer, 8,000,000 pounds are salvaged for livestock feed and 4,000,000 are debittered for food and pharmaceuticals. Recovery of the other 20,000,000 pounds depends on getting priorities for equipment. The production of the primary yeasts offers a method of utilizing the waste molasses accumulated on account of shipping difficulties. Any form of carbohydrate waste can be used in the same way.

Film news

Yukon Outpost, a motion picture filmed in Alaska by the Forest Service (under the original title, Alaska's Forest Arsenals), is being released to theaters by Universal Pictures. This one-reel film, which opened in Washington September 3, shows how the natural resources of Alaska are helping win the war, especially through lumber production.

Two new one-reel films, recently sent to the State War Boards, will be widely used in the Food for Freedom campaign meetings in the field. One, New Harvests for Victory, emphasizes the change-over to war-vital crops such as hemp, soybeans, long-fiber cotton, and flax. The other, Crops for Combat, shows why oilseed crops are needed for war uses.

The magazine Business Screen, No. 1, Vol. 5, is a special edition on the Department's war-film program and includes a foreword by Secretary Wickard and articles by people in the USDA Motion Picture Service. Oliver T. Griswold, Chief of Motion Picture Distribution, Office of Information, has copies (free) for USDA employees.

Department people

Ranger Mac

Wakelin McNeel, of the Wisconsin Extension Service, recently won the George Foster Peabody award for the best educational radio program of 1942. To extension people he is assistant 4-H Club leader; to 40,000 school children who listen to his weekly nature broadcast, Afield With Ranger Mac, over WHA of the Wisconsin School of the Air, he is known as Ranger Mac.

The Department directory in the July 10 *USDA* has appeared under the glass of many desk tops. The Division of Training, Office of Personnel, still has a few copies (Washington employees, call 3185). Ask for *two* copies, as the list is on two sides of a page.

For the Red Cross

Four more Washington employees have received red ribbons (*USDA*, August 21) for donating a gallon of blood to the Red Cross. They are Mrs. Elizabeth MacIntyre, AAA; Mrs. Emily Fenton, FDA; Mrs. Minnie Roberts, Secretary's Office; and Charles F. Hufnagel, BDI.

Field employees living where facilities for blood donations are not available may contribute through mobile units which have the necessary equipment. The Red Cross district chapters have the information.

Department employees in Washington made over 8,000 surgical dressings for the Red Cross during the first few weeks opportunity was provided to work from 5:30 to 7:30, Monday and Wednesday, in the South Building (room 6962). However, more workers are needed. For information, call Miss Jean Pauly, 6171, or Mrs. Ethel Havey, 6229.

The *John H. Hatton*

The late John H. Hatton, pioneer member of the Forest Service, has been honored by a new Liberty ship named after him. The *John H. Hatton* was launched at Baltimore August 30. Hatton retired in 1941, after nearly 40 years with the Department. At the time of retirement he was Assistant Chief of the FS Division of Wildlife Management. He died in 1942.

SCS Region 2 is again in the limelight as the winner of the National Safety Council traffic award for the lowest accident rate on passenger cars in the eastern area of the country. This is the second consecutive year the region has won this honor.

Medical Record, 215 Fourth Avenue, New York City, carries in the May and August issues an article on the value of Department scientific research, entitled "Modern Workers in Mosaics, or How One Thing Leads to Another in Science."

Efficient distribution of the USDA *depends on sharing it with others. Some 29,000 copies are printed; this means 1 for each 3 employees in Washington and the field.*

Letters to you

Whitney Kerr, of Kansas, wrote to the Department: "I am 9 years old. I have 3 roosters. Would you please send a book of how to raise chickens." Whitney got his Farmers' Bulletin on poultry raising.

H. G. Putnam, SCS clerk in Winona, Minn., suggested that Secretary Wickard recognize by a letter the best record of war-bond purchases among USDA bureaus (the Secretary is doing this). Mr. Putnam also thought the *USDA* might mention bureau with outstanding records (this is being done, too).

USDA

September 18, 1943 Vol. II, No. 17

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

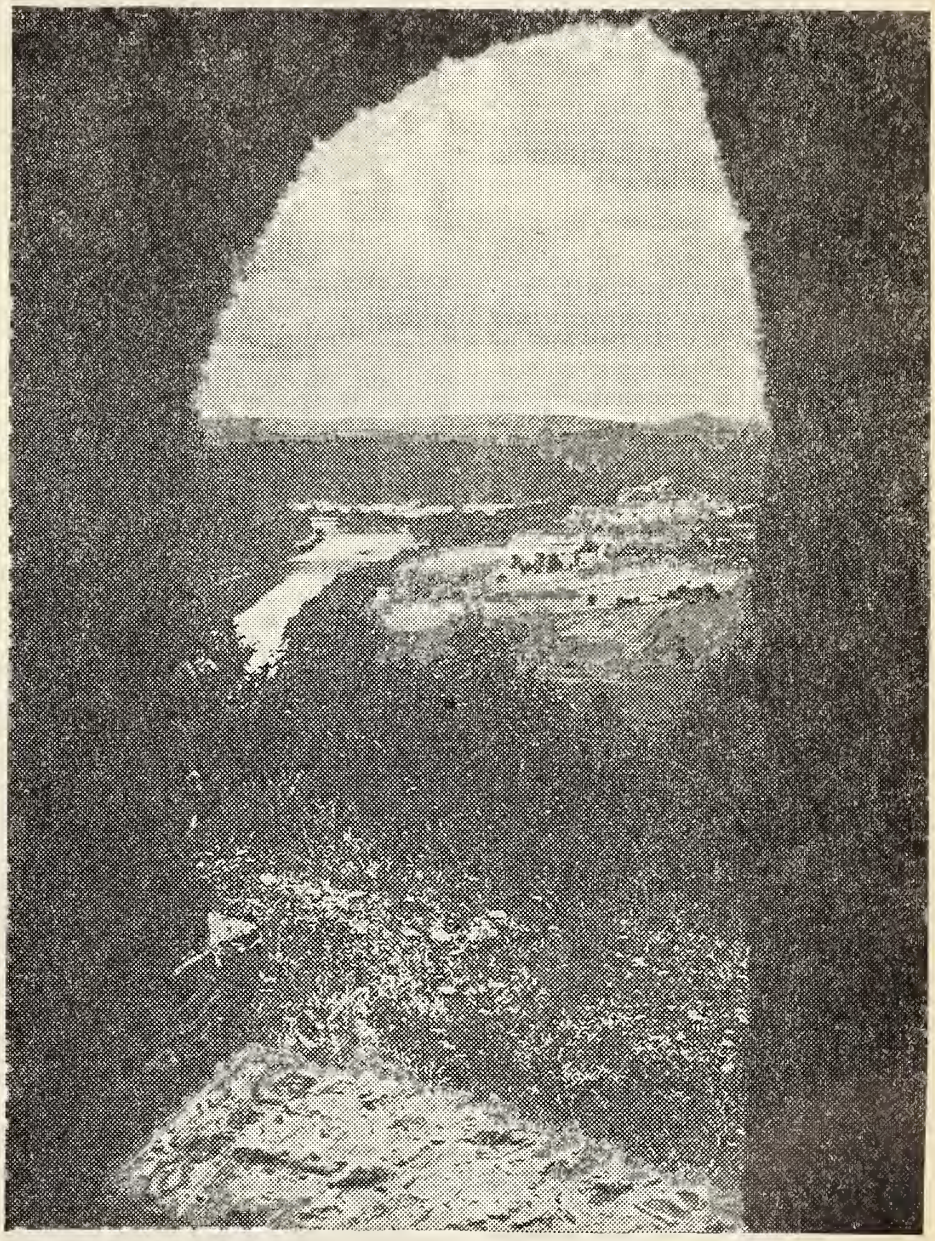
USDA October 2, 1943

Farms of the future

USDA SHOULD note the new BAE publication, American Farmers and the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture (No. 5, The Farmer and the War). This pamphlet analyzes some of the possible effects on United States agriculture, if the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture (*USDA*, May 15) are carried out. It is not intended as a forecast of what *will* happen, but as a basis for *thinking* and *discussion* among farmers, Department employees, and others interested in the possibilities for post-war agriculture.

At the conference, representatives of 44 nations considered steps needed to achieve expanded world economy after the war, with emphasis on increased agricultural and industrial production, greater employment, better markets, higher levels of living, and a more enduring peace.

The conference could not commit any government to take the steps suggested. Whether all or any of them will be put into effect will depend in part on developments resulting from the work of the Interim Commission, now functioning, and the permanent United Nations organization on food and agriculture, to be set up later.



An underfed world

No nation on earth produced sufficient food before the war to provide an adequate diet for all its people. Better world nutrition means increased food production in all countries.

We have talked much about the "inexpansibility of the human stomach" and the "inelastic total demand for food." But the war has proved to us that people's food buying is limited by the ration coupons in the form of dollar bills which they have in their pocketbooks.

We should have faced no food shortages in recent months had our people had insufficient cash to buy all the food they desired. To feed all our citizens well after the war means that 40 million additional acres must be opened to cultivation in the United States.

Post-war Santa Claus?

Right after the war there will be an enormous demand for food abroad. It is estimated that this demand will absorb from 16 to 36 million tons of the concentrated, high-protein foods we have been shipping under lend-lease, the first year after the war ends.

Of course the liberated nations will try as best they can to increase their

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own food production. Other countries not conquered, or not involved in the war, will help too. But Americans must undertake a lion's share of this relief work and that may require a continuance of rationing here for a while post-war.

This will not make us earth's Santa Claus, however. For, in the long-range view, our exports will be only a drop in the bucket of world-wide need. The conference proposed joint cooperative efforts to raise food production on a world-wide scale, and an international organization to assist each country on specific phases of the program. It was felt also that each cooperating country should develop an extension service: our own has already been the model for those in several nations.

Basic things

Underlying all is a program for full employment, both agricultural and industrial. Farmers are not deeply concerned with the mechanism for providing this—whether governmental, private, or a combination—but they do want assurance that permanent full employment will come about all over the world.

Today factories are producing half as much again as ever before. If we can maintain production at that level while we convert from war to peace, then relax rationing controls as fast as we can produce additional goods to fill post-war consumer needs, farmers will have the greatest markets they ever had.

We may face a brief recession as the armed forces are demobilized and factories reconvert. But, as the public begins to buy the things denied it during war, a genuine business boom may develop.

The conference also recommended measures for promoting freer trade and a rising scale of living for the entire world. Unless this policy is carried out, the world will suffer after this war as it did after the last. If it *is* carried out, each nation can work for better nourishment of its own people. The era of cutthroat international competition and dumping of surpluses, due primarily to underconsumption, would end.

The carrying out of this program would mean more and better farms in the United States. It would mean a significant increase in farm production, and settlement opportunities for some of our ex-servicemen as well, especially those who came from farms.

More food needed

To provide sufficient dairy products for our own population five years hence would mean great expansion in dairy production and increased use as human food, much above present record-breaking levels. An even greater increase, proportionately, in acreage would be required to overcome the shortage of green and yellow leafy vegetables in our diet. We should also increase our production of fruit 20 percent.

The war has proved that, with full employment, Americans buy from 25 to 30 percent more meat than they ever bought before. This means more feed grain and hay required. We could use 20 percent more eggs than in the past, and 40 percent more dairy products as a whole.

The Milwaukee conference

That our agriculturalists mean to do their share in forwarding this ambitious world program became evident at the Milwaukee Conference on Post-War Programs, held by the Department July 26–31 last. Here various committees of experts were appointed to deal with specific facts of our national post-war agricultural program, and they are now at work.

Conference Committee No. 1, Bushrod Allin, BAE, chairman, endeavored to commit to paper what it *thought* our farm policy after the war *should* be. It felt that the final policy should be evolved by the democratic and political process of group action, discussion, and trial and error. While it assumed the attitude of merely throwing out suggestions for discussion, the program sketched in was felt to have merit.

It is based primarily upon the production of adequate food and fiber for all, with parity income for farmers, as well as parity of public facilities and services for all rural people. By "parity" the committee meant such income from farming as would provide for farm families the opportunity to maintain a level of living equivalent to that enjoyed by urban people engaged in other occupations. Such parity income would take into account the best interests of the Nation as well as those of farm people.

Making farming pleasant

An effort would be made to remove the unnecessary discomforts, isolation, and disadvantages of farm life, while farmers would have the assurance that their calling is as essential to the Nation in peace as during war. Better schools, sanitation, medical services, electric power, houses, water supplies, and recreational facilities would be provided for farm people.

Democratically achieved

Special emphasis was placed by the committee upon the maintenance of family-sized farms capable of supplying minimum living standards under current and prospective production techniques. Such farms can achieve many advantages of large-scale farms by adopting cooperative organization. Employment and security must be guaranteed part-time farmers, soil conservation and reforestation must be further encouraged, and relations between farm and factory equated. A high level of industrial employment is an indispensable adjunct to the entire program.

Such programs must be mulled over in many meetings. They will evolve in final form only after much democratic processing. If such a broad program is adopted we shall be efficient enough not to fear free world competition. More production will be needed from our farms than in the past. Full industrial employment will also provide work opportunities for boys and girls born on farms, if not needed in agriculture. So we may hope to achieve national and then global freedom from want.

USDA's future

On the afternoon of September 3, Assistant Director of Information Duncan Wall called the reporters of *USDA* in Washington together to meet the editorial staff for three-quarters of an hour. He presented some ideas from the editorial board to give reporters a notion of the type of thing we should like to see appear in *USDA*. These were summarized and, to some extent, exemplified in the September 18 issue, which should offer some guidance to reporters in Washington and in the field who were not present.

It is a melancholy fact that only about half the Washington reporters turned up. To succeed as it should, *USDA* must have active, reliable reporters here and in the field. Information and agency heads of units not represented at the meeting are being asked to interview their incumbent

USDA reporter and, if he or she does not wish to serve longer, to appoint someone who is willing, if not eager, to do so, preferably someone with a good news sense.

Later we shall call the reporters together again, urging them to reach out from Washington to people in their own field set-ups. For many interesting things are done by individuals and units in the field which should be brought to the attention of Department workers everywhere. Hereafter the editor will also seek to give reporters a more specific idea of what is wanted than has been the case hitherto.

In November the editor also hopes to make some pastoral visits to the flock in the field. You might write in and give him an idea where you think he should appear. In any case write to the editor. Say what you think. He will try to appear as elated over brickbats as over fistfuls of clematis, provided they are well deserved in both cases.

Bureaucrats—dead or alive!

"BUREAUCRAT" has somehow become a nasty word of reproach. Did you do anything to make it that? For you are a bureaucrat. Did you ever think of that?

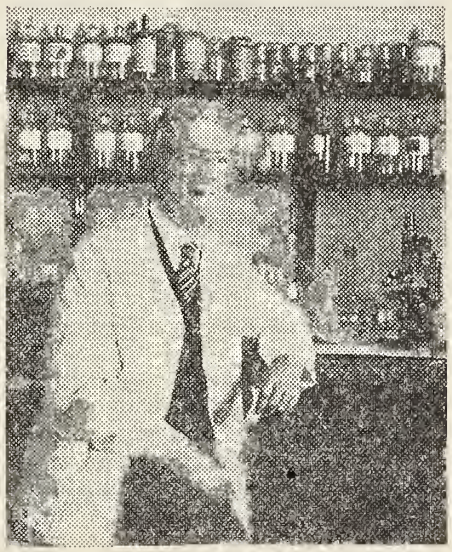
You are a bureaucrat because you work in a large institution organized vertically into bureaus, or the equivalents thereof. A bureau is merely an administrative convenience, an office for the transaction of business of a special sort. A bureaucracy is merely a system of carrying on business by means of various departments, bureaus, subdivisions, sections, or units, each controlled by a chief who is responsible to officials above him.

Every large institution that transacts public business is organized bureaucratically. This holds for railroads, insurance companies, department stores, telegraph and telephone companies, manufacturing concerns and Government departments. How good or how bad a bureaucracy is depends upon the quality of the human beings who man it. That brings the matter back to you.

To inspire you to become admirable instead of repulsive bureaucrats we shall tell you, from time to time, about notable Department bureaucrats, their lives and work. But we cannot tell you about half as many useful and interesting ones as those with whom you are acquainted. In that case you tell us. Write them up briefly. Send them in. We shall be glad to get and to use such accounts.

Marion Dorset—bureaucrat

In 1894 Marion Dorset became a bureaucrat. He entered the Bureau of Animal Industry as an assistant chemist. He died in the service, a laboratory chief, July 14, 1935. He was a kindly, gentle little man, who walked with a slight limp, modest and unassuming. At the time BAI was founded in 1884, at least $25,000,000 worth of American hogs died annually from hog cholera. As it had already been shown that many diseases were caused not by bacteria but by filtrable viruses, Dorset thought that might be the case with hog cholera, and he proved his point.



This was the first time in history that a disease previously attributed to a bacterium was shown to be caused by a filtrable virus. Dorset's discovery led to the finding that yellow fever, smallpox, measles, and many other ills were caused by viruses. Competent experts classified this work with that of Pasteur and Koch. But Dorset next perfected a serum which was highly effective in protecting hogs from cholera when properly used. Just before his death he developed a new and still better crystal-violet vaccine for hog cholera.

The use of these remedies saves American hog growers from $10,000,000 to $75,000,000 annually, the sum depending on the price of pork and other factors. Today, when we need more pork than ever for wartime use, Dorset's work is of immeasurable value. For purposes of comparison, the entire work of Dorset's Biochemic Division—and it made valuable findings in many other fields—cost only about $130,000 a year, even by the time he died. As chief bureaucrat of the laboratory he received about $5,600 a year. The entire work of BAI cost about $12,000,000 a year around 1935.

But Dorset did many other things besides work on hog cholera. When chief of the Biochemic Division, he devised the indelible and harmless marking fluid used in Federal grading of meats. It replaced unsatisfactory printed labels and has saved the meat graders millions of dollars. The organized control of pullorum disease of poultry resulted from work on a rapid serum test for the condition, perfected by workers under Dorset's supervision. Through research by Marion Dorset and members of his staff, tuberculin for testing cattle for tuberculosis came to be produced on a synthetic medium, resulting in a more potent product.

If we decided really to go into detail about Dorset, we should occupy far too much space. But perhaps this is enough to enable you to size up one bureaucrat. How do you like him? What valuable and useful bureaucrats do you know about—living or dead? Let's hear from you.

Mileage savings

THE Government Mileage Administration Program proclaimed by the President and administered by OPA is already showing good results in the Department. Agriculture Mileage Administrator Arthur B. Thatcher says the automobile mileage budget for the USDA and WFA for the fiscal year 1944 shows a 43 percent reduction in mileage over 1941. The President requested at least a 40 percent reduction, without sacrificing essential services. It appears we shall "hold the line" by maintaining, and perhaps even increasing, the reduction for 1944.

Our personnel throughout the country are taking this program seriously and conserving as much equipment, gasoline, and rubber as possible. This reduction is being made in spite of our intensified war activities. We must continue to be alert, however, to every opportunity for continued mileage conservation.

Share the car

Cooperative automobile travel is one means of conserving more mileage. Official cooperative driving is

one of the responsibilities of the Area Agricultural Equipment Committees, which have studied cooperative use of official Department vehicles in various areas. Much has been accomplished, but much more needs to be done.

A cooperative driving plan is being tried out at Atlanta and Boston under OPA with the aid of Government mileage administrators. Preliminary reports indicate savings not only in equipment, gasoline, and rubber, but also in money. The OEM is furnishing a travel coordinator at each point, who serves as a contact officer for those driving cars in official work who have room for extra Government passengers, and for those who are planning a trip and want to get a ride. Department employees, wherever they are, are urged to try cooperative driving on an intra-departmental basis and, wherever possible, on an intra-governmental basis. Let's forget personal convenience and get down to brass tacks in this zone of conservation.

The potatoes of Vincennes

In brief, the potato story is this, in case anybody asks you: Farmers were asked to increase potato production. They did, plenty, but the early crop moved to market late because of freezes. Hence there was a brief period of potato shortage followed by floods of spuds. Potatoes came to market far faster than consumers could utilize them.

Spuds became a drug on the market, but WFA had promised growers specific support prices so, in this emergency, it was obligated to buy potatoes. By August 13 it had purchased 6,745 carloads. It induced canners, starch makers, and dehydrators to open plants they normally did not open till later in the season, and disposed of 4,347 carloads to them. It distributed 904 carloads to State institutions and such outlets to prevent waste, sold 407 carloads back to commercial distributors, and shipped 36 to Puerto Rico. Potatoes remaining in storage will go to canners and dehydrators as rapidly as possible. So far only 125 carloads, or 2 percent of the potatoes bought, were lost in re-sorting and re-grading operations, but half of the potatoes WFA purchased would otherwise not have been dug and would have rotted in the ground.

While commercial producers discard lots containing more than 10 percent rotten potatoes, the Government salvaged good potatoes from lots containing 50 percent or more of bad. It is true that 18 carloads of potatoes were dumped at Vincennes, Ind., because of serious decay. That was bad but unavoidable, because the locality lacked refrigerated space to store and labor to handle all the 37 carloads diverted to processing plants nearby. A few good potatoes went to the dump with the multitude of bad ones. So much for the famous potatoes of Vincennes, and their associates in the 1943 early crop. The late crop, yet to be marketed, will also be large.

About red tape

Red tape is a perfectly awful thing. The expression probably came from the endless, real, physical red tape used by some huge insurance company to bind policies together. Red tape can sometimes bind a policy so tightly that it has no give at all.

Red tape is the other fellow's records and regulations and we don't like them a little bit. Scientific workers hate the red tape they have to go through with to buy laboratory apparatus, and they feel that clerks and accountants are just hired to annoy them. Executive officers detest the disorderly scientists, saying they never keep records straight and ignore the regulations. When we go to a library we abhor all the forms we have to fill out to get a book. After all we're honest, aren't we . . . or are we?

A little fellow with a little business and maybe two employees knows where everything is, how much he pays everybody, what hours they work, why they took time off, and what everything costs or sells for. So he doesn't need regulations and he makes very few records.

A big fellow with a big business—say the president of the telephone company—simply has to have records and regulations developed and enforced by numerous specialists. If he didn't, he soon wouldn't know where he was. Nobody else would know where they were. The business would go to pot.

Rules and regulations

About the biggest corporation in the United States is the Federal Government. One of the biggest peacetime branch companies of that Government is the USDA. It is so big that it has to have rules and regulations, not only to see that the things that should be done are accomplished, but also to find out what it is doing and has done.

Red tape there must be. But just enough to keep the policies together, not so much that it binds and irritates. Catch on?

Plant scientists produce pork!

In his first annual report the first Commissioner of Agriculture said that his new Department would seek to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before. The Department's plant scientists, who—in cooperation with scientists in various State experiment stations—developed hybrid corn, did better than that. They *added* five bushel baskets of corn for every man, woman, and child in the Nation to our annual production of this grain.

The research and breeding phases of this hybrid-corn program have been followed by corn-performance tests, often State-wide in scope. In these the newest experimental hybrid combinations are compared with proven regular hybrids and open-pollinated varieties. Besides outyielding the open-pollinated corn by at least 20 percent, superior hybrids are variously characterized by earliness, production of sound corn, resistance to lodging, to plant diseases, and to insects, withstanding cropping hazards such as drought and heat, and readier adaptation to regions, altitudes, and soils.

A Nation-wide survey made in 1942 revealed that 44.8 percent of our 91,098,000 acres of corn were planted with hybrid seed, developed solely as a result of research by Department and experiment-station scientists. In the Corn Belt 71.6 percent of the total acreage was in hybrid corn.

The yield increase in 1942, due solely to the use of hybrid seed, was 629,364,000 bushels of corn, equivalent to that required to produce 6,923,000,000 pounds of pork. That, in turn, is about four-fifths of the meat required in 1943 to supply our armed forces and to make lend-lease shipments.

Does science pay? You took the words right out of our mouth.

Say it isn't so

EVERY now and then you hear people say that the Government is trying to cerealize our diet. Less polite critics say: "No Chinese diet for me," although the accustomed diet of the Chinese is profoundly excellent from a nutritional standpoint. It makes neither meat nor vegetable the main dish. It mixes both so tastefully and well that the resultant main dish contains all the required food elements in ample sufficiency.

The astounding soybean

The Chinese also make good dietetic use of the soybean. To give it its due, the soybean is an amazing food, too. If an abstract nutritive unit is set up to measure the total food value of a product in one lump—inclusive of food energy, fat, calcium, iron, vitamin A, thiamin, ascorbic acid, riboflavin, and niacin—it is found that soybeans produce more such units per unit of total farm resources utilized to grow them than anything else.

You could produce 806 nutritive units per unit of land, labor, and all farm resources utilized, by raising soybeans. The units for some other common crops as a basis of comparison would be 89 for milk, 34 for eggs, 79 for hogs, 44 for beef cattle, 121 for wheat made into white flour, 470 for wheat made into whole-grain flour. 331 for sweetpotatoes, 248 for dry beans, 170 for peanuts, 163 for beets, 37 for cucumbers, 242 for grapefruit, and 43 for strawberries.

But no cereal diet here

The soybean is rich in energy, protein, fat, calcium, phosphorus, iron, thiamin, riboflavin, and niacin, and contains some vitamin A but no ascorbic acid or vitamin C. However, that does not mean that anyone in Washington thinks seriously of putting Americans on a soybean, or even on a cereal, diet.

It is true that many Asiatics derive most of their energy and protein from cereals, and that meat is an almost unobtainable luxury for them. It is also true that good sources of the essential food elements may be found in many vegetable foods for peoples liberated from Axis domination.

It is true, furthermore, that if we are to feed a greatly increased population—i. e., some of our Allies, some liberated peoples, and our own armed forces, who eat half as much again in uniform as they did in civies—we must expand our production of such things as dry beans, dry peas, soybeans, and peanuts. *But it is not true that we Americans will go on a Chinese or an Asiatic cerealized diet. That is not true at all.*

An economical war diet

Certain scientists in the BAE have calculated out what the American wartime diet would be, if we adhered strictly to those foods which provide most nutritive units per unit of farm resources. For example, it takes 6 to 7 pounds of corn to produce 1 pound of dressed pork—hence we only get 2,436 instead of 8,000 calories—but we also get in pork a protein of higher biological quality than most vegetable protein, along with a lot of lard.

The wartime diet the Department nutrition scientists considered would mean a great increase in our leafy green and yellow vegetables to get protective food elements, also an increase in potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans, dry peas, nuts, tomatoes, citrus, and whole-milk products. It would mean a significant and healthful reduction in the amount of sugar we eat, also some reduction in meats, animal fats, and fruits and vegetables other than those mentioned.

THIS *must become the most popular home-front pin-up. It ties in with the Food Fights for Freedom campaign starting in November.*

We shall have meat

However, that does not mean that we Americans have to adopt any such diet. It is WFA's intention to encourage livestock production as much as the feed situation warrants. The diet outlined is merely a guide for wartime purposes. The nutritive value of our 1943 diet will compare favorably as a whole with that of our diet in recent years which, however, was less well distributed, though we may have to learn that some less usual foods also are palatable.

Meat animals have a distinctive place in our food economy. Cows and livestock eat many things human beings refuse. Livestock consume many byproducts. From these relatively dilute foods they concentrate proteins of excellent quality which are not entirely replaceable in our diet. These we consume in meat and milk.

We normally derive 60 percent of our dietary protein from animal sources—meat, milk, and eggs. From the standpoint of health we can get along quite as well on a diet in which only a third of our protein comes from these sources. But it is the consensus among nutrition scientists that human beings are better off on a mixed than on a purely vegetarian diet.

Our total food production for ourselves at home, our armed forces, our Allies, and liberated countries can be padded out with more nutritive elements from vegetable sources, however. But this does not mean that we ourselves shall be reduced to vegetarianism or anything like it. See the excellent Using Resources to Meet Food Needs (mimeograph) by Raymond P. Christensen, of BAE, for more details than we can give here.

Hereafter the first issue of the first month in each quarter will run eight pages, if you like this and will help to make it a success.

Dr. Chao, of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, was a recent visitor at the FS Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment Station, seeking information about reforestation with American species of trees in China. Other visitors were scientists from Chile and Australia, the latter being especially interested in methods of utilizing wood waste.

Take a bow, OES

The Report on the Agricultural Experiment Stations for 1942 has just been issued. Perhaps this is not your idea of an exciting document. This year, however, it shows how institutions founded long before the days of world wars turn out to be highly useful during the greatest world war in history.

The so-called Hatch Act, or more properly, Agricultural Experiment Stations Act, was passed March 2, 1887. This happened as a result of prolonged agitation by many individuals, among whom Dr. W. O. Atwater, professor of chemistry at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., and the last Commissioner and first Secretary of Agriculture, Norman J. Colman, were prominent.

There already were experiment stations in many States. Dr. Atwater himself had started the first one in Connecticut. The act, however, authorized the establishment, under direction of the land-grant colleges, of State experiment stations to conduct experiments relating to agricultural subjects. It also provided Federal grants-in-aid for this purpose.

The Office of Experiment Stations was created in 1888 with Dr. Atwater as its first chief and A. C. True as his associate. For quite a while the office itself carried on distinguished research in such fields as human nutrition, irrigation, drainage investigations, and so on.

Monetary values

In 1928 it was authoritatively estimated that State experiment-station research had made contributions to American agriculture to the extent of $842,470,995 in value. Each dollar invested in such research brought a return of at least $33, and that figure was conservative.

In 1942 the State experiment stations received a total of $4,620,500 in Federal funds. They also received $2,463,708 of the Bankhead-Jones special research funds. The total funds made available to the stations from non-Federal sources were $15,738,633, or double the Federal funds they received.

Extensive cooperative research with the Department was carried on. Over 1,300 new and revised formal memoranda of understanding were active. These covered about 1,170 cooperative research projects. All told, some 3,472 studies were undertaken with Federal-grant funds in 1942, and 5,142 State-fund projects were active.

This is a big-scale research undertaking, the OES acting as central clearing house and general adviser for all projects. Nearly all the research results reported had wartime significance. Contributions to soil science, to the control of plant diseases and insect pests, to revised rations for poultry and livestock, to soil-management and tillage practices all help agriculture solve wartime problems of unusual complexity.

Better peanut yields

When farmers of the South faced the serious wartime problem of meeting vegetable-oil shortages by growing more peanuts for oil, and peanut planting goals rose from 2 million acres in 1941 to 5 million in 1942, the stations were ready. Three of them had, in fact, already solved problems relating to major peanut diseases which brought low yields.

Peanut dusting with fungicides for leafhopper and leaf-spot control had been proved a success by the Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina stations, giving yield increases of from 300 to 500 pounds per acre. Chemical seed treatments were devised that prevented seed from rotting in the ground, or the blighting of emerging sprouts.

Other wartime findings

Disease-resistant vegetables adapted to specific localities now exist to help us attain canning and dehydration goals. The Massachusetts station showed that from 25 to 33 percent of the total sugar used in most canned fruits, preserves, and jellies could be replaced with dextrose, without change of color or texture. It also developed that use of more than 30 percent of dextrose helped prevent fermentation and mold.

Studies at the New York (Cornell) station showed that low-cost milk production is obtained chiefly by the efficient use of man labor and moderately high output per cow. Various stations presented new and economical wartime rations for livestock and poultry. The Missouri station showed that losses in young pigs

sometimes exceeding 50 percent could be corrected by the provision of abundant fresh forage or pasture.

The Maryland station found that riboflavin, ordinarily supplied poultry primarily in milk byproducts, could be obtained quite as well from a fermentation byproduct obtained in converting molasses into butanol. It showed also that 25 percent of soybean meal could be used as the primary source of protein in the ration with only 2 percent of animal protein present.

The development of the Robust and later the Michelite bean by the Michigan station increased 1941 production nearly 39 percent over 1940. Growers by using them saved 236,000 acres of land, 5,192,000 man-hours of labor, and $5,664,000 in monetary terms.

Dairy improvements

The Connecticut (Storrs) station completed a study which showed that, in one instance, daily travel of 18,000 miles could be reduced to 8,000 by reorganizing milk routes, an important wartime finding.

The Vermont station showed that an estimated reduction of one-quarter in mileage traveled could be effected by reorganization *within* milk companies and an additional one-quarter by reorganization of routes *among different companies.*

This station also helped Leonard Clark, a dairyman of Fletcher, Vt., to apply in a practical way the farmwork simplification studies of the Department's Division of Training (*USDA*, March 27). By rearranging the stables and supplies more conveniently, getting better equipment, and simplifying the chores, Mr. Clark saved 2 hours of work and 2 miles of walking a day in caring for his 22 cows.

This catalogue could be continued, but even good works in time become tiresome. If interested, consult the publication itself. Dr. Atwater, dead now these many years, had no idea how valuable a project he initiated.

FCA PEOPLE in Kansas City set up a Victory Garden Committee and have been staging semi-monthly Victory Garden shows this summer and fall. Prizes in war stamps are given to employees for the best vegetables; then the produce is auctioned off, the proceeds going into war stamps for the next show. There are 63 gardens with 107,000 square feet.

Brief but important

Farm casualties

In 1941, according to the National Safety Council, there were 18,500 fatal accidents among farm people, 4,500 of them occupational in nature. In 1942 the record was slightly better, i. e., 18,000 fatal accidents among farm residents of which 4,400 happened at work. The commonest causes of such farm occupational accidents are, by far, machinery, falls, and livestock. In 1942 agriculture as an occupation provided 24 percent of all occupational accident deaths. This made it a more hazardous calling than building construction, trade and service occupations, manufacturing, transportation and public utilities work, or mining, quarrying, and working around oil and gas wells.

As a whole, there were, in 1942, 93,000 accidental deaths and 9,200,000 nonfatal injuries in the United States. The total cost was $5,200,000,000. For comparison: The War and Navy Departments in July 1943 made public their casualty lists for the first 1½ years of this war. At that time 16,566 members of the armed forces had died in action or from wounds as compared with 53,407 in the 1½ years 1917–18.

Hence more farm residents died by accident in 1942 alone than were killed in the armed forces in a period half as long again. That is no record to boast about. More care on farms would help.

Summary

The USDA Summary, a complete, daily résumé of all Agriculture releases and reports handled by the Department's Press Service, is prepared especially for Department people. It cannot be sent to all employees, but is available to key offices, whether in Washington or the field, and to all Department libraries, as well as to outside libraries. The summary is a quick, easy way to keep up on what is being issued. It should be requested from the Press Service, Office of Information, Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Unsolicited correspondence

Harry L. Carr, then chief of the FDA Marketing Reports Division in Atlanta, wrote Will Lissner, editor of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology thus, under recent date: "The July issue of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology carries an article entitled 'Planning for Victory on the Home Front,' by T. Swann Harding. This article is of such excellence, I should like for each employee of the Southern Region of the FDA to have the opportunity of reading it." Maybe you want a look too?

Hint to field reporters

At a recent meeting of the editorial staff with Washington reporters for *USDA*, one of the latter remarked that field stations often feel very vulnerable and unprotected and are sometimes the target of adverse criticism. He suggested that they would feel better fortified if *USDA* regularly ran items which told how two or more agencies clubbed together, here or there, to solve some problem, perform some public service, or give aid in some emergency. Do you know any such instances? Will you write them up, always being generous to the "other" agencies concerned, and send them in, not eventually, but *now!*

Department people

MORE than 12,800 Department men and women are now serving in the armed forces.

Harvest help

Extension Service says Department people who can spare a day or more in October are urgently needed to help harvest crops. Several hundred Washington employees are helping critical farm-labor shortages in the East. Among them is Wallace Kadderly, who is an apple picker as well as chief of the Radio Service.

JULIAN C. CRANE, OFAR, has gone to Cuba to study fibers at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Santiago de las Vegas. He will work with Cuban botanists on roselle, sansevieria, henequen, and other fiber plants.

Girl "mans" FS lookout

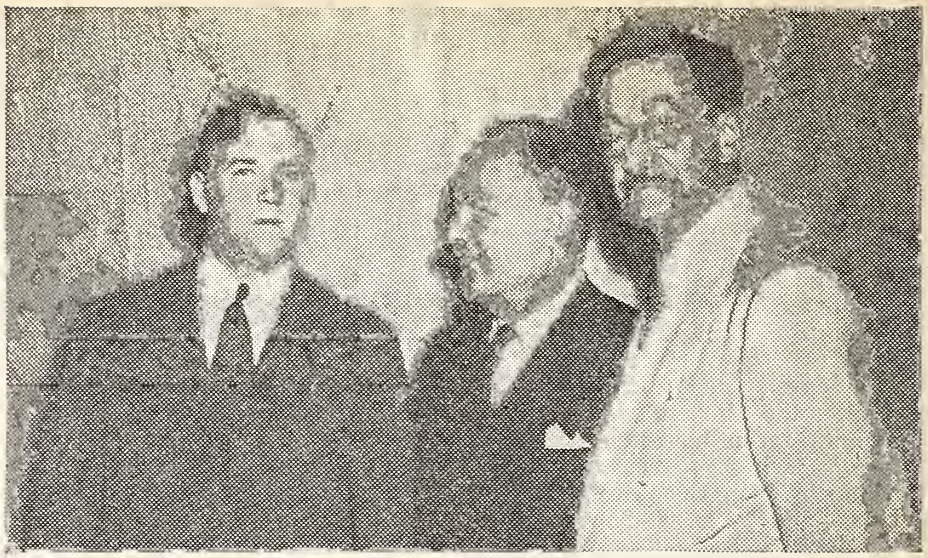
Movie stars aren't the only ones who get fan mail. Since a news photograph of Miss Helen Carlson, "lookoutman" at Squaw Mountain Lookout, Arapaho National Forest, Colo., appeared in the papers, she has had a flood of letters from widely separated parts of the country. Many letters inquired about getting a job like hers, a few were from shut-ins who envied her way of living, many wanted her to correspond with them, one or two wanted her to supply them with data for short stories, and one thought she ought to write a romantic story for the movies of how the girl forest ranger met the ski trooper. The number of visitors to her lookout station the Sunday following the appearance of the article jumped about 500 percent. This year quite a few FS fire lookouts are being "manned" by women.

Arch Robertson, former *USDA* editor, is now with the Home Loan Bank Administration editing a monthly publication.

Successful research by J. I. Hardy, ARA scientist, will make possible the salvage and industrial use of millions of pounds of chicken feathers, formerly wasted or used as fertilizer. Wet-picked feathers, a by-product of chicken-dressing plants, normally decompose too rapidly to permit their shipment to feather-processing establishments. Dr. Hardy found that a combination of two weak acids will preserve wet feathers satisfactorily without injuring their fluffiness. The discovery makes possible the salvage of chicken and turkey feathers from poultry-dressing plants throughout the country at a time when they are needed.

USDA husbands can can

Some of their wives could hardly believe it, and others laughed heartily at the idea of mere men canning food, but eight USDA husbands put up 6 bushels of beans, 6 of tomatoes, and 4 of peaches one evening this fall at a Washington community canning center. To prove it, the men—H. B. Bolin, Marcus Gordon, Marvin Sandstrom, Roy Murphy, Webster Ballance, FDA; Gerhard Kruger, Charles Ellison, Personnel; Verne Lewis, OBF—each took home about 60 cans. The cost was only 2½ cents apiece for the produce, cans, sugar, etc.



Secretary Wickard keynoted discussions of REA's place in the Department's postwar planning program at a conference in St. Louis last month. Conferees studied methods of more closely coordinating the work of the headquarters staff, the field staff, and REA-financed co-ops in helping to win the war and plan the peace.

"We ought to have a two-fold objective," Secretary Wickard said. "One part of that objective is to see that electricity is taken to the rural homes of America as fast as practicable—the other is that we do everything possible to see that those homes that have electricity make a maximum use of it from the standpoint of the benefits that are being derived . . .

"After the last gun is fired there is going to be a great demand for agricultural products of this country. That means that we want to see to it that REA lines are put in use as rapidly as possible in order to meet the demand."

Secretary Wickard (see cut) addressed the opening session. REA Deputy Administrators William J. Neal, left, presided, and Vincent D. Nicholson, right, spoke.

H. B. Humphrey, BPISAE pathologist, retired August 31. During his 30 years in the Department, he conducted research on cereal smuts and rusts, and cooperated in breeding varieties of wheat and oats resistant to these diseases. He will continue as editor-in-chief of Phytopathology, and as chairman of the Departmental Committee of Languages and Literature, and teacher of French, in the Graduate School. He also plans to continue research on certain phases of cereal rust and related problems.

Lucile W. Reynolds, formerly chief of the FCA Family Credit Section, is extension field agent in home-demonstration work in the Northeastern States. She succeeds Florence Hall, now head of the Women's Land Army.

USDA

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USDA October 16, 1943

Big doings on the food front

THERE WILL be big doings on the food front in November when the Food Fights for Freedom campaign really gets into high gear. Not all will be done in Thanksgiving month, of course. This is a long-time campaign, an over-all home-front war program of greater intensity than any other except the bond program.

The program is explained in the booklet, Food Fights for Freedom, which has been made available to USDA field people and to all media presenting information to the public—advertisers, newspapers, magazines, radio, and motion pictures. The basic fact is that during total war there simply cannot be enough food of all kinds to satisfy all demands. Definite shortages of many desirable foods are inevitable.

Fighting men must have all the food they need. Civilians on the home front must be allocated sufficient food for nutritious diets that will maintain health and morale. Our Allies must have such food as they require to piece out inadequate diets. We must use food as a weapon of humanitarianism in conquered territories and those released from Axis domination.

Produce, conserve

We must produce more food of the kinds wartime requirements demand. We must conserve food, avoiding our customary large food wastage, starving the garbage can. We must preserve fresh, perishable foods for future use. We must eat at least one food daily from each of the basic seven food groups and so adjust our diet as to substitute plentiful for scarce foods, even if we do sacrifice palatability somewhat.

We must play fair in buying food, sharing cheerfully and fairly through rationing, and seek to keep costs down by paying no more than top legal prices. We must participate in community food projects, getting neighbors and friends to do likewise. At all times we must place winning victory first and expect to adjust to wartime and post-war conditions as necessity dictates.

It began in 1940

Looking back, we find that Secretary Wickard on December 26, 1940, foresaw that the national defense program would result in increased purchasing power. So he especially urged hog growers to increase their 1941 spring pig crop, which they did. Increased marketing of beef cattle in 1941 was also advised.

On April 3, 1941, the Department announced its Food for Defense Program, designed to help farmers produce the food required for lend-lease added to domestic demand. On May 6, following, a price-support program was announced to expand production of dried beans, and an effort was made to stimulate tomato growing.

In July 1941, the farm resources of the Nation were surveyed in order to plan attainable food-production goals for 1942. The first Food for Freedom farm-production goals were announced September 8, following this survey. Japan's attack made necessary a resurvey and a reannouncement of new 1942 goals, heavy in oil crops (peanuts, soybean, flaxseed, and cottonseed) on January 16, 1942.

Goals for the 1942 pack of tomatoes, peas, corn, and snap beans were announced December 1941, while the National Garden Conference was in session. ARA undertook its research program to aid the producers of dehydrated foods needed by our armed forces and for lend-lease on June 5, 1942.

Kick the garbage can

These are high spots in agriculture's long-time food program. The rest is history, well known to you, a history largely of how nobly farmers responded regardless of obstacles. To mobilize our people to effective action on this front by giving them the facts that will lead to such action, November has been designated Food Fights for Freedom month.

Beginning in November, wholehearted support will be requested from all States, counties, and cities, all organizations, all food processors and handlers, all religious and labor groups, in fact everybody, in a great campaign to educate ourselves on the need for maximum action on the food front. November is mobilization month for food. Thanksgiving will assume new significance.

But the campaign does not end then. It will not end with the war. It cannot end until some semblance of world stability appears, and the production, processing, transportation, and distribution of food become normal. However, watch for big doings in November. Enlist in the home-front kitchen police. Go out and kick the garbage can for good luck.

Produce, conserve, share, and play fair.

DR. R. M. WILDER, since January chief of the FDA Civilian Food Requirements Branch, has returned to the Mayo Clinic. He still serves as medical adviser to FDA. The acting chief of the branch is now Norman Gold.

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Wartime dates for reference:

1940—Dec. 26: Secretary, foreseeing National Defense Program would increase consumer purchasing power, recommended expansion of 1941 spring pig crop and increased marketing of beef cattle throughout coming year.

1941—Mar. 11: Lend-Lease Act signed.

Apr. 3: Food for Defense Program announced; also price supports for certain crops under Steagall Amendment.

May 5: Office for Agricultural Defense Relations created. *May 6:* Price-support program announced for certain dried-bean varieties and efforts made to stimulate production of canning tomatoes.

July 5: USDA Defense Boards set up.

Sept. 8: Food for Freedom Program and goals for 1942 announced.

Dec. 13: Department reorganized to streamline for war effort. Reorganization validated by Executive Order dated February 23, 1942. ARA created. *Dec. 19:* Goals announced for 1942 pack of tomatoes, peas, corn, and snap beans. *Dec. 19–20:* National Garden Conference.

1942—Jan. 7: USDA Defense Boards became USDA War Boards. *Jan. 16:* Post-Pearl-Harbor goals for 1942 announced with increased wartime oil crops.

Mar. 8: Department's guayule-rubber project started.

May 8: Secretary suggested use of 80 million bu. wheat or corn to make alcohol for producing synthetic rubber. *May 14:* Victory Food Specials announced.

June 5: ARA announced intensive wartime research program to aid producers of dehydrated meats and vegetables needed by our armed forces. *June 5:* Foods Requirements Committee established. *June 9:* Combined Food Board created.

July 23: Three-point program to alleviate meat shortage announced.

Aug. 7: Joint program of WMC and USDA to aid in supplying farm labor announced. *Aug. 20:* Machinery set up to transport domestic farm workers into areas of labor shortage and retain experienced workers on farms. *Aug. 28:* Pricing, marketing, and processing program for major oil crops announced—cottonseed, peanuts, soybeans, and linseed.

Sept. 1: Voluntary meat-conservation program announced.

Oct. 2: Price Stabilization Act signed. *Oct. 7:* President authorized Secretary to increase CCC loan rates on cotton, tobacco, rice, and marketing-quota peanuts from 85 to 90 percent of parity. *Oct. 14:* Various vegetables designated essential, less essential, and nonessential. *Oct. 28:* Program to stabilize employment on dairy, livestock, and poultry farms announced under directive requiring Selective Service System to ask local draft boards to grant occupational deferments to necessary men for whom replacements were unavailable.

Nov. 10: Program for conserving, training, and recruiting labor on dairy, livestock, and poultry farms began.

Dec. 5: Secretary placed in charge of Nation's wartime food program. *Dec. 10:* Department reorganized to facilitate carrying out national wartime food program. FPA and FDA created. *Dec. 19:* Food Advisory Committee appointed, automatically abolishing Foods Requirements Committee. *Dec. 31:* Announcement Food Stamp Plan to be suspended March 1, 1943.

1943—Jan. 8: Farmers in commercial corn area permitted to overplant corn allotments without penalty. *Jan. 17:* Increased plantings of potatoes, dry beans, and truck crops requested under production-payment program. *Jan. 19:* Restrictions placed on use of milk and milk products in civilian production of ice cream. *Jan. 20:* Selective Service liberalized requirements for agricultural deferments. *Jan. 21:* FPA made additional production credit available through Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation. *Jan. 25:* Unified responsibility for supplying labor for farm war production given to Secretary by WMC chairman. *Jan. 28:* Price-support program for growers of tomatoes, peas, sweet corn, and snap beans for canning announced.

Feb. 5: Program of special advances to encourage production of specified war crops announced. *Feb. 9:* Inter-Agency Food Procurement Committee appointed. *Feb. 14:* Program to mobilize 3½ million farm workers announced. *Feb. 23:* Victory Farm Volunteer Program announced.

Mar. 16: Standing Agricultural Committee of Canada and United States established. *Mar. 24:* Nutrition Division of Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services transferred to FDA. *Mar. 26:* President established Food Production and Distribution Administration, appointing as its head an Administrator to whom were transferred all powers and responsibilities concerned with the national wartime food program hitherto held by Secretary.

Apr. 19: New food agency designated War Food Administration; powers and functions of Administrator and of Secretary differentiated and clarified.

May 10: WFA established Office of Materials and Facilities. *May 17:* War Meat Board established. *May 26:* WFA appointed a Director of Transportation. *May 27:* FPA War Board Service Branch transferred to Office of War Food Administrator. *May 31:* CCC sales of wheat for feed discontinued.

June 23: WFA established Office of Labor. *June 25:* WFA requisitioned corn stocks in elevators.

July 13: 1944 Food Production Program announced.

Aug. 10: Livestock-slaughter licensing program announced, effective August 15. *Aug. 12:* WFA announced 7 regional offices of Office of Labor. *Aug. 14:* FDA's Food Industries Labor Branch transferred to WFA Office of Labor. *Aug. 24:* WFA announced Irish-potato loan program. *Aug. 25:* WFA established National War Board. *Aug. 26:* WFA established Office of War Board Services.

Sept. 7: WFA announced 1,600,000 placements of workers on farms made through farm-labor program the past 4 months. *Sept. 8:* WFA announced control plan for sales of fluid milk.

The State of Arizona, listed in the September 18 *USDA* under Region 6 of the WFA Office of Labor, is now under Region 4.

Brief but important

WFA set-up

Judge Jones on September 24 announced the WFA set-up (*USDA*, July 10). There are three groups: Office of Administrator; program agencies; service and staff agencies.

Office of Administrator: First Assistant Administrator, Assistant Sectary Grover B. Hill; Assistant Administrators, Ashley Sellers, Wilson Cowen; Special Representative, M. Clifford Townsend; Assistants to Administrator, Thomas J. Flavin, Stanley Williams, Francis A. Flood.

Program agencies continue without change: FDA, Roy F. Hendrickson, Director; FPA, J. B. Hutson, Director (supervising AAA, N. E. Dodd, Chief; FSA, R. W. Hudgens, Acting Administrator; SCS, H. H. Bennett, Chief; FCIC, J. Carl Wright, Acting Manager); CCC, J. B. Hutson, President; Extension, M. L. Wilson, Director; Office of Labor, Col. Philip G. Bruton, Director; Office of Materials and Facilities, M. Lee Marshall, Director; Office of Transportation, Mark Upson, Director; Office of War Board Services, William L. Nelson, Director.

Service and *staff agencies* (and personnel): Same as for the Department (BAE, OBF, OFAR, Information, Library, Personnel, Solicitor's Office, OPO).

Nearly 100 of the 529 Production Credit Associations in the country report that over 18 percent of the members who had loans on July 1, 1942, were operating their farm businesses a year later without borrowing short-term credit from any source. FCA says payment of debts is receiving first call on surplus funds, along with expenditures for increased production of food and fiber and purchase war bonds.

In the production goals meetings now under way, State and Federal agricultural officials are working out final goals for 1944 based upon war needs, and upon State by State capacity to produce as estimated by committes in all States in their recent studies of maximum wartime production capacity. The final national goals will be the sum of the produc-

tion which each State regards as possible of attainment in 1944, taking into consideration the necessary wartime adjustments among commodities.

Feathers

Feathers may enter the surgical field. USDA workers at the Western Regional Research Laboratory have developed a method of dissolving feathers and making a plastic, threads of which can be used as sutures. Even so, large quantities of feathers go to waste. The Nation's poultry flocks produce over 100,000,000 pounds of feathers a year, but normally only around 18,000,000 pounds are used.

Say it isn't so!

THE 1943 farm-production goals, which it appears will almost certainly be attained, called for the *seventh straight year* of record-breaking *food* output. Beginning with 1937, American farmers have each year produced more food than they did the year before.

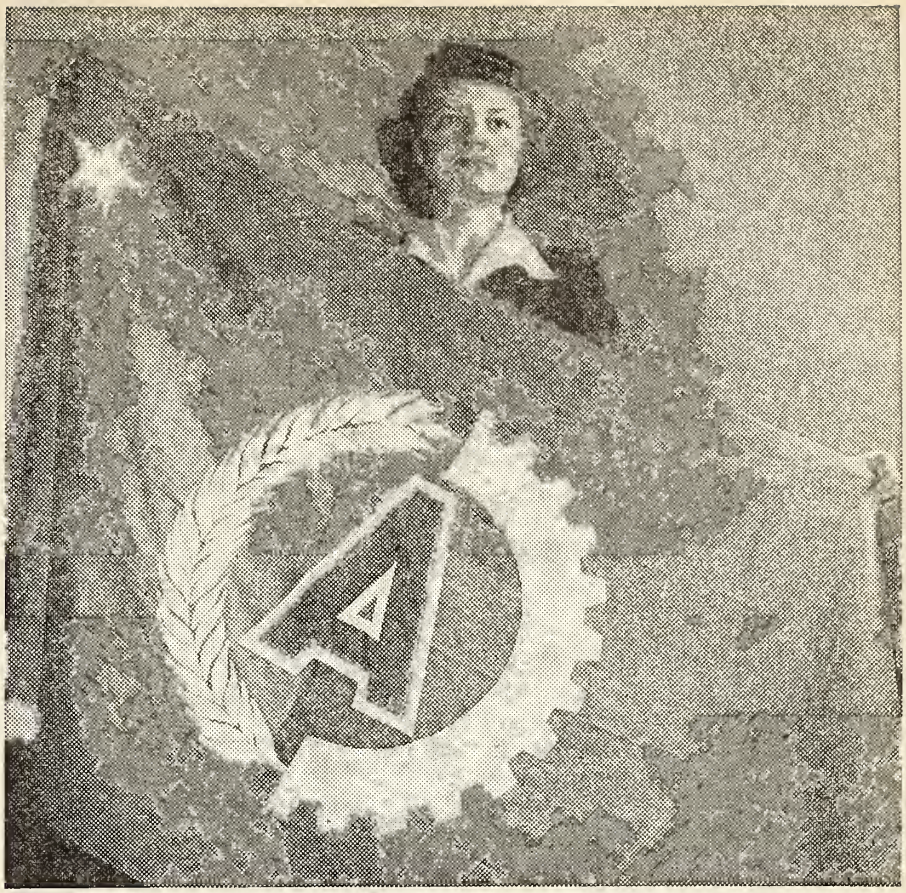
Some have imagined that farmers hit their production peak in the 1923–32 decade, when crop surpluses piled up like mountains and prices were depressed to ruinous levels. As a matter of fact, food production was 8½ percent larger in the 1933–42 decade than in that of 1923–32.

Current shortages are the result of vastly increased consumer purchasing power, plus unavoidable wartime needs for our armed forces and our allies. These make demands surpass even our record output.

In 1941 and 1942 the American people ate better than ever before in their history. They consumed 8 percent more food per capita than they did during the boom years 1928 and 1929. Moreover, in the 5-year period 1938–42 our per capita consumption of agricultural food products was considerably larger than during any other 5-year period in our history.

The index numbers show

If the index number 100 is used to represent our output of agricultural food products, our total agricultural production, food and nonfood, and our per capita consumption of agricultural food products during the 1935-39 period, we get some interesting results.



The girl in the picture, Anne Gregonis of the AAA, is holding the new A flag, an agricultural award for outstanding production given to farm counties and to seasonal food processors. The A banner—the farm equivalent of the E pennant awarded industrial plants—has on it a blue A, a white wreath of a head of grain and half a gear wheel symbolic of farm and food-plant production, and a white star showing the first season's award, on a background of a green field. Other stars may be added as earned.

Farm-county awards will probably be made in November, Food Fights for Freedom month. State War Boards are nominating outstanding counties, representing the combined efforts of farm families. FDA regional directors and commodity branches will nominate seasonal processing plants. The WFA, in Washington, will make all final selections.

Farm counties will be awarded the A flags at ceremonies at courthouses or other central places, with a message from President Roosevelt and representatives of the armed forces attending.

Between 1923 and 1932, the *index for farm food production* attained 100 only twice. In 1934 it was also 100, then it dropped back into the 90's for two years, but reached 101 in 1937. It then rose steadily as follows: 103 in 1938; 106 in 1939; 111 in 1940; 115 in 1941; and 126 in 1942.

Our *total production of agricultural products* attained 100 in 1926 and 102 in both 1928 and 1931. It was 96 in 1933 and remained in the 90's until 1937, when it ran 106. In 1940 it was 110, in 1941 it was 113, and it rose to 125 in 1942.

But our *per capita consumption of*

agricultural food products must also be considered. This averaged 101.6 between 1923 and 1932, and never rose above 103, where it stood in 1923 and 1924. In 1929 it was only 102 and it had dropped to 99 in 1932. It remained in the upper 90's until 1937, when it reached 101. It rose to 105 by 1940, was 111 in 1941, and 108 in 1942.

In 1942. our total food output outstripped that of the peak year before the AAA by 26 percent. It surpassed production during the World War year 1918 by more than 40 percent. Meanwhile, per capita food consumption grew by leaps and bounds, and the demands of the armed forces and our Allies increased. It was these solid facts which affected our food supply, not any philosophy of scarcity.

The lost acres

As to acreage, the thing of first importance is really *acre yield of crops.* It is a fact that harvested acreage was 6 percent smaller in 1942 than it was in 1932, but crop production in 1942 was around 30 percent greater than a decade earlier. Crop production in 1941 was nearly 20 percent greater than in 1932, despite a decrease of 8 percent in harvested acreage.

The area planted to crops in 1942 was only 23,000,000 acres less than in 1932. The all-time record was set at 377,000,000 acres in crops in 1932. We expect to put 380,000,000 acres in crops in 1944. Agronomists say that we should endanger future production by planting more than that, say 400,000,000 acres, and would have no positive assurance of worthwhile yields from the additional land either.

We should use *seeded* or *planted* acres in all calculations, since annual losses of planted acres, due mostly to adverse weather conditions, usually varied between 9,000,000 and 47,000,000 acres, at least between 1932 and 1939.

Many acres that were in nonfood crops a decade ago are in food crops now, under our program of using acreage to produce the commodities we most need. Many are in summer fallow which has greatly increased their productivity. Some have also returned to grass in which they have more value for pasturing livestock than when used as cropland; they also thus undergo less damage.

In 1944

Today the productivity of our soil is at an all-time high. Partly because of conservation programs, yields per acre have averaged 20 percent higher during the past 5 years than during the previous 20. The 1944 farm-production program will be carried out in strict conformity with good soil-conservation practice.

Department people

Suggestion from P. V. Cardon, Assistant Administrator of ARA: The organization of a USDA Long-Service Legion, made up of present and retired employees with at least 25 years of Department service. Its function would be to promote fellowship among members, keep up with activities of retired employees, and welcome new members. (The Office of Personnel is considering Mr. Cardon's idea.)

Baldwin leaves FSA

C. B. Baldwin, Farm Security Administrator, has resigned to be Area Director of Economic Operations for Italy under the Department of State. This Department says he "will deal with economic affairs in Italy whenever the United States civilian agencies enter the country to assist in connection with its supply and other economic problems."

Mr. Baldwin entered government service in 1933 as assistant to former Secretary Wallace, in 1935 was named Assistant Administrator of the then Resettlement Administration, and became FSA Administrator in 1940.

In a letter thanking Mr. Baldwin for his "high standard of public service," President Roosevelt said in part: "The eight years you have given to the rebuilding of the family farm as the keystone in our national agricultural structure have strengthened this Nation immeasurably for the defense and perpetuation of its democratic principles."

The *Hoke Smith*

Sallie Cook, president of the Georgia 4-H Club Council, recently christened a new Liberty ship, the *Hoke Smith*, named for a coauthor of the Smith-Lever Extension Act of 1914. The 4-H members started out to sell enough bonds to buy one ship. They sold enough — over $9,500,000 — to pay for more than *four* ships.

Col. Samuel Goodacre, Chief of the SCS Administrative Services Division, retired in September, at age 62. Colonel Goodacre was born in Bromsgrove, England, and came to this country at the age of eleven. He later entered the U. S. Army in World War I, and had been in Government service for over 20 years. He is now serving as treasurer of the nongovernmental Welfare and Recreational Association of Public Buildings and Grounds.

Mouton coats

Now that the Army Air Corps is getting enough "shearling" sheep pelts for aviators' suits, women will get more mouton coats made from shearling pelts. A year and a half ago the Department, at the request of the WPB, asked sheep raisers to increase production of shearling pelts for flying suits. So well did they cooperate that pelt production doubled in 1942—5,209,000 compared to 2,600,000 in 1941. Now the Air Corps has reduced its 1944 needs from 60 million to 15 million square feet of pelts. Shearling pelts are prepared for women's coats by a process which makes them look and feel like fur. Here's one wartime production program that is already changing to a post-war one.

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USDA

October 16, 1943 **Vol. II, No. 19**

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA October 30, 1943

Inspectors are ladies now

The Junior Marketing Specialist exam had been tailored for men. Even the notice read: Only men are desired. But a lady took it anyhow, and when Paul Williams, FDA, was on one of his field trips he decided to drop into Minneapolis and see what manner of woman Elinore T. Linderer was. Miss L. became the first lady inspector. This was in August of 1938.

Subsequent civil-service exams for the marketing job showed that a wedge was being forged. To ecology, pomology, horticulture, food processing, food chemistry, and other items that gentlemen turn into careers was added something amorphous labelled *food selection and preparation and nutrition*, something generous enough to let the skirts in. Now, Mr. Williams says he couldn't do without these lady inspectors.

A backward look

To go back a bit and reminisce about the early days, the first inspection occurred under the Warehouse Act in the 1920's. Came the lean and hungry years and Agriculture found itself inspecting for bankers. The canners had to hock their tin for cash, and the bankers used this service to appraise their investment.

In 1931, inspection became part of the BAE Canned Fruit and Vegetable Division. Today, it is known as the Processed Standardization and Inspection Division, under FDA. There are 54 branch offices—in Florida, California, Texas, Oregon, Maine—wherever there is a request to inspect any of the 70-odd processed fruits and vegetables we may inspect for canners, commercial firms, or anyone financially interested.

In addition, FDA inspects commodities such as spices, cocoa, essential oils, etc., and processed fruits and vegetables, for Government agencies only. Fifty percent of current inspection is devoted to quotas set aside for the armed forces. Servicing the Army and Navy has put these Government vigilantes on day, swing, and graveyard shifts.

The thing to remember is that this inspection is voluntary, not mandatory, which explains why a staff of 195 lady and 215 male inspectors can operate on an appropriation of only $53,000, fiscal year 1943.

Meet the lady inspectors

It's a field day for these 195 ladies, and they are stepping gracefully and skillfully into laboratories and canning plants as Federal processed-foods inspectors, and doing a man's job. The age range is from 22 to 35; salaries start at $1,620 for inexperienced trainees just out of college.

What does a lady inspector do? Well, take a citrus packing plant, for example. Inspectors check the plant for sanitation. They check the fruit conveyor belts and equipment for mold growth or other contamination. On the product itself they make a chemical analysis to ascertain the sugar content and the percentage of pulp and acid, and determine by distillation the percentage of oil. Nor is it merely an automatic, cursory job, for they are ever on the alert for ways of improving the quality of the product they inspect.

A woman's touch

Take catsup, for another example. First, a gravity test to discover the percentage of tomato solids, then a mold count to expose faulty fruit, if any was piped into the catsup. Then a thorough, womanly look around the plant with an eye for housekeeping and sanitation.

A recent report on corn reads: "Raw product is not too good. Lots of worms and some dark kernels. Personnel don't wash hands after go-

MEET *two of the lady inspectors. Miss Jo Glover and Miss Dorothy Lee inspect citrus juice in the FDA laboratory at Weslaco, Texas.*

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ing to rest room." Recommendations for improvement were made to the management.

For the nonce, exams have been scrapped. Instead, indoctrination classes are held throughout the country and those who show an aptitude are chosen as trainee inspectors. After appointment they receive 6 months of intensive training and actual inspection under direct supervision.

The majority of the women are home economists, chemists, bacteriologists, and food technologists. They're bright and young and know the job—and like it, too. So Mr. Williams' hunch was right—and it's the same Miss Linderer who braved a civil service stag line 5 years ago who's working on the standardization end of inspection and training the ladies who choose white lab coats instead of khaki or blue.

Wheat then and now

On January 24, 1918, Lord Rhondda, British Food Controller, cabled the United States Food Administration that, unless he could send the Allies 75 million bushels of wheat soon, their people might not have enough food to win the war. The wheat carry-over July 1, 1918, was between 22 or 44 million bushels, depending upon the authority you select. The carry-over on July 1, 1943, was 618 million bushels. There you have wheat then and now in a nutshell.

We entered the first World War in April 1917 and by October of that same year were being asked voluntarily to observe wheatless Wednesdays. By March the next year the Food Administration requested that no wheat or wheat products be served in any first-class hotel or restaurant until after the harvest. Beginning in February 1918 the sale of wheat flour to individual consumers was forbidden, without an equal amount of wheat flour substitutes—corn meal, corn grits, oatmeal, rice, etc.

In 1942 we used more wheat to make industrial alcohol than our entire carry-over of July 1, 1918. During 1942–43 the CCC sold 275 million bushels of wheat for livestock feed. In December 1917 the Food Administration prohibited the use of grain in the distillation of alcohol for any purpose, unless unfit for human or animal consumption, and during the first World War practically no wheat was used for livestock feed.

Indicated wheat production according to the September 1943 crop report is 835 million bushels. Our total supply will then be 1,453 million bushels for the fiscal year, with an anticipated disappearance of 1,200 million. Our carry-over on July 1, 1944, should be 250 to 300 million bushels, depending upon the extent and use made of CCC imports.

Achievement of the goals should give us a total 1944 supply of satisfactory size. Combined wheat stocks of the four major exporting countries were 1,770 million bushels on July 1, 1943, or enough to take care of normal world trade for 3 years. That's bad? Look back to 1918 if you think so.

Food sent on Lend-Lease

The President submitted his Eleventh Report on Lend-Lease Operations for the period ending July 31, 1943, to Congress on August 25 following. It contains some food facts we should all try to memorize. They form good ammunition for replies to misinformation.

From the passage of the Lend-Lease Act, March 11, 1941, to July 31, 1943, the value of goods transferred and services rendered totaled nearly 14 billion dollars. Of this, munitions constituted 50 percent, industrial products 21, and food and agricultural products 14. The remaining 15 percent consisted of shipping, ship repairs, construction of plant facilities here for the production of lend-lease goods, and so on.

Between July 1941 and June 1942, foodstuffs and agricultural products constituted 30 percent of the goods exported under lend-lease; between July 1942 and June 1943 they constituted only 18 percent. Munitions had grown meanwhile from 42 to 56 percent.

Lend-lease food went principally to the United Kingdom and U. S. S. R. These together received 93 percent of all food shipments in the period covered. Prior to the war Britain produced only 40 percent of her food requirements, a percentage she upped to 70 right in the midst of total war. The Soviet Union, as is well known, lost much of its best agricultural land to the Nazis.

Did L-L make food scarce?

Current domestic scarcities of certain foods have not been caused by lend-lease shipments, however. The shipments represent a relatively small percentage of our total food supply. In 1942, lend-lease took 6 and in 1943 will take about 10 percent of our food supply. In general, the proportion of individual foods sent has averaged around 5 percent; of some it ran as high as 30.

For instance, in the first half of 1943 we sent 45,400,000 pounds of beef and 8,100,000 of butter. That looks like a lot. But it was actually 1 percent of our beef supply for that period and 0.7 percent of our butter production. *We sent the equivalent of four one-hundredths of an ounce of butter per capita out on lend-lease*, January–June 1943.

On the other hand, men in uniform eat so much more than civilians that feeding the armed forces is equivalent to adding 4 or 5 million people to our domestic population. Increased consumption by civilians with increased incomes adds a great many more.

Who ate the meat?

Some Americans have been critical of the "bungling" authorities who, they say, deprived them of meat. Actually we food-conscious Americans ourselves hogged so much of the meat there wasn't enough left to go around without rationing.

During the 1935–39 period Americans consumed about 16 billion pounds of meat a year. In 1942 they bought 17.6 billion and in 1943 they would like to buy several billion pounds more than that. In 1942 we produced 22 billion pounds of meat; we hope to produce 26 billion this year. During the fiscal year 1942–43 we shall have a total meat supply of about 23¼ billion pounds. Of that, civilians will get 14¾, the armed forces 4, and our Allies about 3¼ billion pounds—our Territories, the Red Cross, and our necessary reserves accounting for the rest.

Under unprecedented civilian and wartime demand, based on needs of the armed forces and workers' enhanced incomes, the normal pre-war method of meat distribution simply would not do the job. In response to our civilian clamor for meat, people began slaughtering everywhere, local handlers of meat expanded, commercial packers reduced their sales areas, and meat prices went up like skyrockets.

FDA Order 75

As a result, consumers in areas of excess supply got all the meat they

wanted. Those in deficit areas went short. The Government, buying only from federally inspected establishments, could not get enough meat for soldier, sailor, and allied needs. Food Distribution Orders 27 and 28 of March 5 last helped some. They did reduce black markets and move more meat into federally inspected plants. But Food Distribution Order 75 covers all they covered, and more.

Order 75 went into effect August 15. Now every slaughterer, no matter how big or how small, must have a license or permit to operate his business. To get this he must abide by prescribed rules and regulations.

The order requires slaughterers to deliver into civilian channels only the quantities of meat authorized by the FDA. It requires packers to pay not less than the WFA support price for hogs. It will be administered through FDA's seven regional offices. Finally, establishment of the War Meat Board in June will bring order and improvement into the whole meat program.

National milk jag

THIS Nation is on a milk jag, and has been for months. True, our total milk output has increased 10 billion pounds since 1940. We expect to produce at least 118 billion pounds this year as compared with only 101 billion in 1935 and with the 140 billion which nutrition experts claim our population could use advantageously in peacetime.

But our consumption of fluid milk has been increasing steadily at a rate of 1 percent a month. This encroaches on supplies needed to manufacture wartime dairy-product requirements. So far in 1943, our consumption of fluid milk and cream has been at an annual rate of 41 billion pounds. Compare with 37.7 billion in 1942, and an average of 32.6 billion pounds, 1936–40.

The number of dairy cows on farms has increased since 1942, though production per cow is lower. Pep talks to the cows would hardly help. Rationing of butter, cheese, and evaporated milk has helped; there are also limitations on heavy cream and frozen dairy products. This, too, has proved insufficient.

The control plan

On September 8, WFA authorized the Director of Food Distribution to regulate expanding fluid-milk sales through a system of dealer quotas. By September 30 control over milk sales had been established in 13 areas, and 6 more were named October 12. The general provisions of another program, effective October 1 to December 31, 1943, to protect dairy farmers against increases in the prices of dairy feeds above the September 1942 level, were announced September 25.

The milk-control plan involves neither point rationing nor any curtailment of fluid-milk consumption below recent levels. It provides for control of sales by all fluid-milk dealers and producers who directly serve consumers. It aims at cooperation in milk conservation on the part of producers, dealers, health authorities, and consumers in each area, to assure equitable distribution of the available supply.

Avoid point rationing

Separate quotas may be applied to deliveries to various classes of purchasers, such as wholesale outlets, retail stores, restaurants, and homes. If supplies are inadequate to meet all demands, those most essential, such as for hospitals, pregnant and nursing mothers, and young children, will be met first. Equitable sales distribution must be maintained and discriminatory practices eliminated.

If the plan works, point rationing will have been forestalled. If rationing of so perishable a product should become necessary, it would prove extremely complex at the consumer level, and would also result in substantial reductions in fluid-milk sales in many markets.

Aside to the ambitious

MANY are they who yearn to make the next grade and get more money. Some seem to go around all the time perpetually asking, "Do you think I'll get grade 4?" or "When will I get P–3?" Yet, in general, it is not half so helpful to ask for a promotion as to get more to do.

When you get a job, first of all organize your work and learn to do it as expeditiously as you can with efficiency. Then ask for more. Accept responsibility, don't avoid it. If possible ask for more *kinds* of work.

A while ago a girl entered the office of a large corporation where many different kinds of work were performed. Someone had to be in the office every Sunday and every holiday. This girl had not been there long when she found out that practically everybody wanted Sundays and holidays off. So she made up her mind, first, to learn to do her work quickly and efficiently; second, to ask for more work; and third, to substitute on any Sunday or holiday for a whole year for workers who did something different from herself. She worked 365 days that year and, by the end of it, she could handle any job in the office.

The next year she became a supervisor at a lot more money. The other workers grumbled. They had been there much longer. Most of them were older. They simply couldn't understand why that girl was pushed ahead so fast. They called it office favoritism. Was it? What do you think?

The lady who puts her foot in your door in November will not be selling Dr. Whoozit's magic egg beater. She will be a volunteer worker in the Food Fights for Freedom campaign, and will have printed and oral information of importance to the entire family. She will make house-to-house visits, so that homemakers like the one above will have an opportunity to get an over-all picture of the national battle on the food front. Get into the fight. Urge housewives to listen and learn how best to handle the war weapon they use three times daily—food.

Brief but important

By Executive order 9385, October 6, 1943, the functions of WFA and CCC with respect to the procurement and development of food, food machinery, and other food facilities in foreign countries were transferred to the Foreign Economic Administration. Transfer of some personnel, records, etc., is involved.

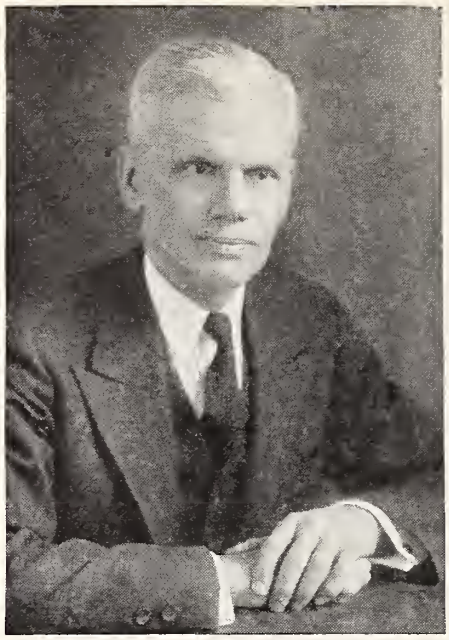
Magazine war guide

The Magazine War Guide is issued monthly, for magazine editors, by the OWI Magazine Bureau. It is dated two months ahead; thus the issue which actually comes out in October is dated January–February 1944. This is because the monthlies go to press so early. It contains brief items on all Government programs about which the agencies would like material to appear in general magazines. The editor of *USDA* is Department contact for OWI Magazine Bureau. Suggestions for items to go in the War Guide, written up briefly in two or three hundred words, should be addressed to him. Ideas and contributions will be appreciated.

The Office of Labor has full responsibility for carrying out all labor, manpower, and wage-stabilization programs of WFA. These functions had previously been under various WFA agencies, among them FPA, FDA, and FSA. The Director of Extension Work assists the Director of Labor.

Despite stories you often see to the contrary, it is important to know that no OPA regulation whatever prohibits anyone from slaughtering, selling, or eating food animals. If you butcher and sell the meat, you should get a farm slaughter permit from your County War Board and collect ration points for the meat sold. If you are a farmer and raise the meat yourself, slaughtering and eating it within the family is your own business.

A limited number of mimeographed copies of the up-to-date list of top Department and WFA officials is available from the USDA editor.



The success of the Department's war food program depends on the farmer. He produces the food. While the development of a far-reaching national farm program may center in Washington, the success of that program depends on how well it fits the farms of America. If the parts do not fit together like the broken parts of a saucer, it cannot be a success. This is a time for cooperation—not only between town and country, farm and factory, but between all agencies of the Government. As we work together, we win together.—W. L. Nelson, *Director*, Office of War Board Services.

Doctor Ball

Dr. Elmer D. Ball, the Department's first director of research and former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, died, aged 73, at Pasadena, Calif., on October 5. Graduating from Iowa State College in 1895, he received a Ph. D. from Ohio State University in 1907. He came to the Department as Assistant Secretary in June 1920, and in October 1921 became research director. Dr. Ball organized the Graduate School, serving as its director until 1925. He led the movement for establishing a Bureau of Home Economics and helped organize the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

To Anon Y. Mous

While the editor of *USDA* regrets that readers who have adverse criticism to make are so timid, or so unsure of their ground, as to resort to anonymity, even such communications are read with care and attention. The Casper Milquetoasts must consider themselves sincerely thanked herewith. Knocks, even more than boosts, perhaps, indicate that a publication is alive.

T. C. Byerly, in charge, BAI Poultry Investigations, has received the 1943 Borden Poultry Science Award—a gold medal and $1,000—for contributions to research. J. C. Hammond, BAI biologist, has received the Poultry Science Award—a scroll and $100—for published research in 1943.

A Personnel Policy Committee, appointed by Personnel Director Reid, is preparing a brief but comprehensive statement on Department personnel policy. Mr. Reid has asked employees in Washington and the field to send suggestions to S. B. Herrell (chairman), Office of Personnel, USDA, Washington 25.

In the item, USDA husbands can can, October 2 *USDA*, the statement, "The cost was only 2½ cents apiece for the produce, cans, sugar, etc.," should have read, "The cost was 2½ cents apiece for the cans, plus the price of produce and sugar, and something for use of the canning equipment."

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA November 13, 1943

Advertising and FFFF

Cooperation of the food trades and of advertisers—both national and local—is helping the national Food Fights for Freedom educational program previously reported in these columns.

Citizens are being reached through all the methods of modern advertising and sales promotion through the voluntary cooperation of food distributors and of advertisers within and outside the food fields. Some five months ago, OWI, WFA, and OPA joined in asking that the War Advertising Council undertake the preparation of a program for advertising cooperation in the educational campaign then being organized. The council is a wartime organization of national advertisers and advertising agencies.

It responded immediately and submitted a program modeled somewhat on the advertising plans it had created for the Treasury Department's use in promoting the sales of war bonds and stamps. The council recommended that, to establish the pattern for advertising and trade cooperation, outstanding leaders in the fields be obtained from commercial ranks for a 4-month period to get the program under way.

The staff gets going

Following this recommendation, WFA obtained the services as advertising director of Vernon D. Beatty, advertising manager of Swift & Co. Mr. Beatty enlisted a staff including J. Sidney Johnson, sales manager of the National Biscuit Co., and Harry Madden, well-known newspaper advertising sales expert.

These men, through the work of more than 30 consultants serving without compensation, organized a program of presenting to advertisers, publishers, broadcasters, and the food trades in all parts of the Nation the wartime food situation, and the actions needed by citizens in order to make food a most effective weapon.

Some 28 meetings, called by local advertising clubs in all major market centers of the country, were held. They were addressed by the volunteer collaborators. All major food-trade associations were approached and their cooperation obtained. Large food concerns paid for the printing of promotion booklets addressed to advertisers and the trades. The backing of the Allied Newspaper Council and the Association of Newspaper Advertising Executives was given to the project for obtaining local sponsorship of newspaper advertisements setting forth the Food Fights for Freedom story.

Advertising serves gratis

The Outdoor Advertising Association agreed to produce and distribute to owners of billboard plants in all major centers outdoor billboards carrying the appeals for individual action on the food front of the war. The tea-trade association undertook to print and sell to its members package inserts carrying the message. Coffee and other trade associations are undertaking to cooperate.

Meantime, the War Advertising Council assigned to a number of advertising agencies—Benton and Bowles, Sherman K. Ellis, Paris and

MRS. *Alice Davis, 71-year-old widow, of Lovely, Ky., with 1,600 other southern workers, helped harvest Maine's record potato crop. She averaged 55 barrels of potatoes a day. About 500 of the workers, returning home, stopped at the Nation's Capital and were congratulated by prominent Senators, Congressmen, and WFA officials. Mrs. Davis presented War Food Administrator Jones with a bushel of potatoes from Governor Sewell of Maine. Left to right: Senator Barkley, Kentucky; Mrs. Davis; Judge Jones; Senators White and Brewster, Maine.*

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Peart, Lennen and Mitchell—the responsibility for designing advertisements, posters, etc., carrying the campaign message for dissemination through organized channels.

Many other lines of activity were carried forward with the cooperation of individuals and business concerns. Actual cash contributions by the industry for promotional materials used in the program have been generous.

The result is the messages and materials now appearing, and to follow, in advertising of all kinds and in every retail food outlet. Various companies have underwritten 550,000 units of store posters of different sizes, and aid also in distributing the kitchen pin-up chart (illustrated in *USDA*, October 2), 30,000,000 of which will be distributed to reach every household in the Nation.

All this material carries the official message of the FFFF educational program. All will seek to stimulate self-education of our people on the vital subject of wartime food and the individual family's responsibility for producing and conserving, sharing and playing fair with this invaluable home-front munition of war.

WFA strengthened

The Combined Food Board has been reconstituted with the War Food Administrator as U. S. member, the Secretary of Agriculture as neutral chairman, and a Canadian in addition to the British member.

The Food Advisory Committee and the Interagency Allocations Committee have been abolished and their functions combined and transferred to a Food Requirements and Allocations Committee of WFA of which the Director of Food Distribution is chairman. He has also been designated the War Food Administrator's representative and deputy on the Combined Food Board, and by agreement with the Secretary the services of OFAR are made available to him.

The Food Requirements and Allocations Committee is composed of all U. S. agencies which are claimants for food, either for domestic or foreign account: War and Navy Departments, Office of Foreign Economic Administration, War Shipping Administration, Civilian Food Requirements Branch of FDA, and FPA.

Corn-hog story

Corn is America's most important feed grain. Hogs are an unusually fast piece of biological machinery existing for the conversion of grain into meat. Hence corn and hogs assume extraordinary importance in wartime.

Corn production increased markedly in this country between the two World Wars. Corn acreage, however, was considerably greater then than now. But yields per acre have been consistently higher during the present war than 25 years ago. So has total production.

During 1942 both yield per acre and total production were the highest in history. The country produced 267 million more bushels of corn on 21.4 million fewer acres than during the corresponding World War I year, 1917. Production during 1943 is expected to exceed that of World War I year 1918 by 544 million bushels grown on 7.9 million fewer acres.

Conservation pays out

That is a remarkable achievement. We owe it in considerable measure to cropping practices adopted or extended under our agricultural conservation program during recent years. In other words, soil conservation, the use of fertilizer and lime, preceding corn by hay in rotation, and the substitution of hybrid for open-pollinated seed in the Corn Belt all pay.

All these practices, except the use of hybrid corn, are conservation practices. Combined, they are credited with 6.2 bushels of the 28.4 bushel-an-acre average yield of corn in 1940.

Hog production also increased during both wars. Partly because of a consistently favorable corn-hog ratio during the present war, swine production has reached a new all-time peak since Pearl Harbor. But prices of both corn and hogs were higher 25 years ago than they have so far been during this war.

Then and now

The basic problem of maintaining a balance between corn and hog production in the present war is diametrically opposite that of 25 years ago. Then the high price of corn relative to hogs caused the Government to exhort farmers to feed more of their corn, for marketing in the form of pork and other hog products.

Today hog prices are high relative to corn prices. Shortages of corn for feed have resulted, not only for hogs but for other livestock, while corn has been short for processing at times. The Government has therefore been forced to appeal to farmers to market hogs at lower weights and otherwise reduce the quantity of corn used for feeding swine, thus increasing the supply to processors and to deficit areas.

Good neighbors

Our neighbor to the north, Canada, can now get better shipping service on citrus fruit from Mexico, our neighbor south of the border, thanks to new BEPQ administrative instructions issued recently by P. N. Annand, chief. These allow Mexican oranges to be shipped to approved United States ports on the Mexican border and thence to Canada in bond by rail over prescribed routes.

Mexico produces considerable citrus, mostly oranges, which she is eager to sell to Canada; the latter is equally anxious to get the fruit. For some years the fruit (except that from the State of Sonora, bordering Arizona) shipped to Canada, moved to New York or Boston by water, and then to Canada by rail under bond. Entry of Mexican oranges and grapefruit into the United States for consumption here is prohibited because of the prevalence there of the Mexican fruitfly.

When shipment could be made by water, Department officials felt they were not justified in allowing shipment from infested Mexican regions to Canada by an overland route. Now wartime conditions make water shipment impracticable. Plant-quarantine officials believe rigid safeguards on transshipment of the fruit will eliminate danger to our citrus crops. These safeguards are based on scientific findings of Department entomologists and other scientists.

Shipments from Mexican States other than Sonora are limited to oranges, in which fruitfly infestation is perhaps lighter than in grapefruit, and shipping is allowed October 1 to March 15 only. Oranges and grapefruit produced in Sonora for shipment to Canada may enter the United States throughout the year. The BEPQ instructions continue to allow entry of oranges and grapefruit from any part of Mexico by the water-rail route when shipping conditions permit.

Outlook Conference

Problems of war and post-war agriculture were reviewed at the twenty-first annual Outlook Conference in Washington in October. In addition to addresses by Secretary Wickard and Department economists, 97 State representatives from 43 States heard speakers from other Government agencies and other countries discuss domestic and world agriculture.

At the conference, opened by Howard R. Tolley, BAE Chief, six major topics were disussed: Will We "Hold the Line"?; Farm Prices, Income, and Expenditures; The 1944 Program for Food and Agriculture; International Relations; Post-War Readjustment; Activities Looking Toward Post-War Readjustments.

In outlining 1944 production-goal trends, Sherman Johnson, BAE, also discussed factors important to attainment of the goals—price supports, labor, farm equipment, household equipment, feed supplies, and fertilizer.

In liberated areas

Regarding prospective relief needs in liberated areas of the fighting front, Mordecai Ezekiel, adviser to the Secretary, said in part: "Exportable supplies of basic carbohydrate foods, largely from other food-exporting countries, are ample for relief feeding if they could be moved, but protein and protective foods are short. Maintenance and expansion of local production and fair distribution of the food available are likely to be the great problems in relief operations, however; shipped-in supplies can be only a stop-gap to help speed these fundamental correctives."

Taxes, wages, prices, land values, and use of farm income were among other subjects. Speakers included Randolph Paul, General Counsel of the Treasury; Wayne L. Morse, War Labor Board; Richard V. Gilbert, OPA; Tsou Ping-wen, High Adviser to the Ministry of Food, China; Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent General for India; Paul Appleby, Under Secretary; Frederick V. Waugh, FDA; F. F. Elliott, Raymond C. Smith, F. L. Thomsen, O. V. Wells, BAE. Walter Lippmann, principal speaker at the outlook dinner, spoke on "Isolation or Cooperation—What Are the Consequences?" Eric Englund, OFAR, closed with a summary of general sessions. Copies of speeches and other outlook material are available from BAE, 3511 South Building.

Soybean bureaucrat

The name of William J. Morse (see cut) is destined to be linked permanently with one of the most amazing food plants introduced into the United States, the soybean.

"We are ignoring one of the very best food plants in the world," he has been saying over and over again, in person and in print, for nearly 30 years, it being a trait of good bureaucrats to "prove all things; hold fast to that which is good." It required World War II to vindicate Bill's judgment, but we are now witnessing a rapid acceptance here of the soybean as a first-class human food.

No wonder! As an economical source of essential food elements the soybean appears to have no equal; it is probably one of the most complete natural foods. A pound of soybean flour, for example, contains about as much protein as 2½ dozen eggs, 1½ gallons of milk, or 2 pounds of meat.

An acre of soybeans actually produces about 20 times as much protein and nearly 10 times as much fat—while requiring only half as much labor—as an acre producing corn fed to cattle. It is good protein and fat, too, though it must always be remembered that the protein of meat, milk, and eggs has a unique biological place in our diet.

The young sprouts

Soybeans also provide most of the essential vitamins and minerals aside from vitamin C, though soybean sprouts are rich in vitamin C. The sprouts may be grown anywhere, any time, and under practically any conditions! Yes, and without soil, without sunlight, and in a few days. Military authorities are considering them for supplying men in remote regions with a fresh vegetable—protection against scurvy—the year round.

The soybean is also the only bean practically without starch—welcome news for those dieting to reduce.

Why wasn't it accepted sooner? Probably because we didn't actually need it. But it does appear absurd to have gone along wearing glass ornaments when Bill Morse was offering us diamonds.

Soybean harbinger

Morse came to the Department directly after getting a B. S. degree from Cornell in 1907. Ever since, he has been connected with what is now the BPISAE Division of Forage Crops and Diseases. He soon became enthusiastic over the possibilities of the soybean.

For more than 30 years he has been testing varieties. He made an extended trip to the Orient to bring back sorts that appeared likely to prove of value to this country. As a result, he has become the outstanding national authority on the soybean. Particular credit is due him for bringing about its use as a human food in the United States, and for providing the varieties of soybeans needed industrially.

Morse's reputation in this field, coupled with his known ability to cooperate effectively with fellow workers, led to his supervision over the research activities conducted on soybean improvement and production at the U. S. Regional Soybean Laboratory, Urbana, Ill. This national recognition came as no surprise to his fellow workers, who have long appreciated his outstanding qualities as a man, as well as his ability as a research worker.

Efficient distribution of the USDA *depends on sharing it with others. Some 29,000 copies are printed; this means 1 for each 3 employees in Washington and the field.*

Where did the butter go?

Has the Government's butter policy been erratic, ill considered, and haphazard, as some have said? Were LL and military needs filled too long in advance and regardless of the effect upon civilian supply?

Milk production has increased considerably since 1940. But so has civilian consumption of fluid milk and cream. In view of that and of large wartime requirements for cheese and evaporated and dried milk, it has been impossible to do more than merely maintain butter production.

In 1943 we shall produce about the same quantity of butter that we have in recent years, 2.1 billion pounds. Government requirements take 430 million pounds, of which two-thirds is for our armed forces and most of the rest for Russian soldiers. Military butter consumption largely represents a mere transfer of civilian consumption.

To the Russians

Lend-lease, Red Cross, and other emergency war programs for which FDA buys absorb 122 million pounds of butter. Among these we find 100 million pounds for the Russian soldiers, or ½ pound out of each 10 pounds we produce. Civilians, through their authorized claimants, will be allocated approximately 1.7 billion pounds of butter in 1943.

But, as in case of most commodities, total civilian and Government needs exceed available supplies. Hence rationing, allocations, and set-aside programs are necessary to equalize distribution. Government agencies purchase their annual butter requirements during the season of large production, storing the excess for winter needs. Thus civilians achieve a fairly constant supply throughout the year.

Never again

True, there was confusion in the beginning when all agencies entered the market at will and bid against one another for butter supplies. An acute butter shortage developed and civilians went without. To help avoid repetition of this experience a set-aside order was issued in February 1943 to cover Government needs.

Manufacturers of creamery butter were asked to hold 30 percent of their monthly production for the Government. The percentage increased to 50 in May, declined to 30 in August, to 20 in September, and to zero in October. It is not expected that more butter need be set aside until April 1, 1944.

FDA has purchased 207 million pounds of butter since February 1, 1943, of which 40 million have already been shipped. Its present inventory is very slightly in excess of anticipated needs. If real excess stock develops, it will be distributed to supply the most critical domestic needs.

All butter produced during the next half year should become available for domestic civilian use. It was in order to conserve civilian supplies that FDA covered its military and LL requirements so far in advance. The procedure adopted was orderly and well conceived.

Brief but important

Urgent wartime need for many Department publications has developed as new territory is liberated from the Axis. These are required for reference use during the early stages of Allied occupation. The burning and sacking of Naples gave a preview of what the Allies may expect to find as they enter liberated territory. Present trends indicate that ammunition dumps will be replaced by stockpiles of Department publications augmented by other Government and non-Government material. As the Army progresses, this will be used by AMG and the local populations in bringing the scorched earth back to productivity.

USDA publications are also requested in considerable numbers for warship libraries, to aid the subsistence food program in Liberia, to aid field parties in other American countries, and for good neighbor use in general. Requests for lots of as many as 500 bulletins on the same subject—say poultry raising and care—are far from unusual. Our charts and graphs about the basic seven food groups, photographs of cafeterias installed in Government buildings in Washington, and nutrition posters are attaining worldwide notoriety.

Employees who have not done so should designate beneficiaries for their retirement funds in case of death. Department personnel officers have the forms, to be filled out in duplicate and sent to the Civil Service Commission, which returns a copy for the employee to keep. Albert C. Klett, formerly in BAE, was killed in action overseas. His widow, who had kept this blank, procured his retirement fund without delay.

Grassroots Bureaucrat

All bureaucrats are not in Washington. Neil M. Clark, in the Saturday Evening Post (October 23), describes W. I. Marschall, a Texas county agent, under the title "Grassroots Bureaucrat." Marschall "is a bureaucrat you can call Billy, the typical county agent, the most useful and least conspicuous official on the farm front."

Fletcher P. Veitch, formerly head of Department research in industrial farm products and naval stores, died October 15 in College Park, Md., aged 76. Dr. Veitch was well known for his work in leather, naval stores, and industrial use of farm products. After being with the Department for 37 years, he retired in 1938, but continued as a collaborator of BAIC until his death.

Plans are being initiated to establish a special committee in each Department agency to handle advancements for especially meritorious services. These committees will: (a) Inform employees of the plan for granting advancement; (b) develop methods for discovering cases of especially meritorious services; (c) judge the merits of each case and make recommendations for advancement. Each agency will announce its committee. (Personnel Circular 116. Revision I, Oct. 4.)

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA November 27, 1943

Turkey story, war style

THE WALL of Jericho is down. The turkey embargo has been lifted and turkeys are back again. Several months ago, turkeys vanished from mart and menu and started for embarkation points. The story of how turkeys went to war is a turkey story, 1943 style, without Pilgrim dressing or erstwhile family gathered around a festive table. It is the story of the Four Freedoms, convoyed to all the far, strange places where American boys are fighting.

Back in June, representatives of the poultry industry, Army Quartermaster Corps, and WFA met in Chicago to whip up 10 million pounds of turkey for overseas shipment. The Army had decided that our men were going to have a traditional Thanksgiving menu, no matter where they were.

Voluntary or mandatory?

How to obtain the 10 million pounds of birds was the burning question at that Chicago meeting. Should it be voluntary or by a food order? WFA was for voluntary action, and the Army followed to some extent. The trade wanted a mandatory order. They felt that time was short, too short to waste trying to coax producer and processor into the urgency of mid-September overseas deliveries.

So a food order was promulgated by WFA, Army, and trade, to prevent the sale of turkeys "dead or alive" to civilians. No more turkey for Joe Mufti until Joe Khaki got his fill for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. After trial and travail, FDO No. 71 emerged on August 2 to draft the "early bird" for distant Yanks. An amendment of August 19 sealed storage turkeys within the provisions of the original order.

It wasn't easy going. The season was late, the weather bad, and feed short. Despite these handicaps, 1,750,000 pounds were delivered in the first few weeks. By September 7, the report was 2,869,806 pounds, of which 546,000 had been shipped overseas.

In early October, the Army increased the 10 million quota to 12 million, and then decided to continue the embargo to obtain 20 to 25 million more pounds for mess halls on the home front.

Came the dawn

The end came at 12:01 a. m. October 25. The embargo was lifted. There were enough turkeys for the foxholes, enough "birds in the hand" or commitments for the domestic KP's, and enough for civilians. Actually, there are more turkeys going to market now than in pre-war years.

This is the turkey story, war style. Before, it was a tale of the Pilgrim Fathers who set aside a day, called it Thanksgiving, and ate turkey to celebrate. So turkey became the Thanksgiving bird. Prior to the Pilgrims,

CATHERINE AND ROLAND BROWN, *6-year-old youngters of Prince Georges County, Md., proudly exhibit one of the turkeys they helped to feed. It belongs to a neighboring farmer, Samuel Crawford, who cooperated with the WFA in its drive to get 35 million pounds of turkeys for holiday dinners for our fighting men here and overseas. Farmer Crawford points out that the CCC helped him put weight on his birds by making feed available in the nick of time a couple of months ago.*

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there were the Aztecs who served the ocellated wild turkey of Yucatán, Mexico, warted and wattleless, to beasts of prey in the gardens of Montezuma. The head and neck of the ocellated turkey, still found in Yucatán, are blue, studded with orange warts.

Throughout the years, turkeys increased in popularity and size. Big turkeys were fine for big families and big incomes. But families became smaller and incomes dwindled. So it came to pass that in 1934 our scientists at the Beltsville Research Center undertook a streamlining job. The Beltsville experts developed a streamlined turkey, the Beltsville White, to fit the appetites, incomes, and ovens of Mr. and Mrs. America. The Beltsville White is a combination of the best characteristics of the wild turkey (size and excellent flesh), standard Bronze (body shape), White Holland (color), Black (size and early maturity), and White Austrian (imported from Scotland). After selected matings, the resulting hybrids were crossed again, and the progeny selected for color, size, early maturity, and excellence of fleshing.

It's breeding that does it

Nor was the big turkey neglected. The big breasted Bronze, with 15 percent more breast meat than the standard bird, was an achievement of other breeders, accomplished by selection of birds outstanding in size and breast development. This is a convenient bird for hotels and restaurants, or any mass feeding project.

Dr. T. C. Byerly, BAI poultry investigations chief, says the Beltsville Whites are a fine lot, but so are all the others. A plump, well-finished bird is a good bird, by any other name, regardless of color, crossing, or caste.

And it will be a good bird that we and our soldiers will have this Thanksgiving—for this turkey went to market, this turkey stayed home, and this turkey went to war—he and his sisters and his cousins and his aunts.

Miss Jean Collins, Syracuse, N. Y., wrote the Department: "Could you send me a picture of a field of wheat waving in the wind on an Iowa farm? I am sure this must sound like a very odd request, but it is for a very worthy cause—namely, a homesick Iowa service man." Dr. Merrill, publications chief, sent several photographs of wheatfields for the homesick soldier.

Service flag

On December 7, Pearl Harbor Day, Assistant Secretary Grover B. Hill will unveil a service flag, in the Administration Building patio, for Department men and women in the armed forces. Department personnel are invited to assemble at 2:15 p. m. An appropriate ceremony will accompany the unveiling, which will take place at 2:25, the time when the Japs started bombing Pearl Harbor 2 years ago. Under the flag will be a roster of the names of the 12,000 employees who have joined the armed forces, and other names will be added from time to time.

Aside to toilers

Every now and then you hear people gripe continually about a certain two or three things. These concern some situation in which they are involved. Any intimate relationship—a business partnership, matrimony, or a job in government or private enterprise—can give rise to chronic gripes. Perhaps the boss has certain rather trivial eccentricities, or demands adherence to what the worker regards as silly minor rules. The result is what used to be called "bellyaching"—and it probably still is called that.

People who bellyache continually make us tired. After all, a business partnership, a courtship, a marriage, or the relationship between supervisor and subordinate is a total situation. As a total situation it is either good or bad, when you add up its advantages and its disadvantages, and subtract the smaller from the larger. The situation is either intolerable, whereupon we quit it even if that means great strain and effort, and enter into some other similar relationship that looks as if it would be better; or it is tolerable and as long as we remain in it, it obviously is bearable.

But, if we make a change, we may find that the new total situation is quite as unbearable as the old. In any case we should size the thing up *as a total situation.*

If only three or four quirks of the supervisor tend to sour us on a job we otherwise like very much, why not steel ourselves to give in here, gracefully and finally, and forget it, enjoying the rest of the job, and compensating perhaps by some out-of-office activity?

Organizations back FFFF

National organizations are lining up solidly behind the Food Fights for Freedom campaign. These include women's organizations such as the YWCA, American Association of University Women, and League of Women Shoppers. The American Home Economics Association and Colored Nurses Association, whose members are especially well equipped to tell people about the campaign, are cooperating. Welfare and social-service organizations, including the American Association of Social Workers, Child Welfare League of America, and Jewish Welfare Board, are helping spread FFFF facts. Among youth groups cooperating are the Junior Red Cross and Camp Fire Girls. The CIO helps through factory-feeding programs. The International Work Order is disseminating food information to 15 different language groups.

These are only a few of the organized groups who are joining in the fight. After hearing about the community mobilization plans at joint meetings, the organizations will help promote the FFFF campaign locally. This will be done in three ways: Self-education through house organs and other information channels; formation of their own FFFF committees to work with the community food committees; and special community projects which local organizations are equipped to carry out.

Feed facts

WFA is trying to handle protein concentrates through regular commercial channels, but has authorized CCC to direct shipments of 20 percent thereof to cover emergencies. Even this 20 percent is left in the hands of the trade unless the emergency is acute. Steps have been taken to prevent speculators from holding protein concentrates or accumulating large stocks. But no regulation prohibits dealers from selling concentrates to anyone, so long as the accumulation of large stocks is avoided.

Total supplies of concentrates this year will be greater than were used last. But our increased numbers of livestock will reduce the quantity available per animal unit to a pre-

1940 level. We shall also have about 3 billion bushels of corn, about 835 million bushels of wheat, 330 million of barley, 33 million of rye, 107 million of grain sorghums, and over a billion bushels of oats. In addition wheat, oats, and barley for feed are being imported.

The feed situation will be tight, not desperate. No one should buy more than is required for current needs. Crushing of soybeans, peanuts, and cottonseed will continue throughout the winter; protein will be available right along. If we avoid panic and take a reasonable attitude, there will be feed enough to take care of all our livestock in the manner regarded as normal up to 1940.

Does this answer your questions?

Now THAT the facts are in, after many predictions of decreased acreage, starvation, famine, food riots, and so on, some direct answers to possible queries might be appreciated. So, just in case:

We now know that 1943 will be the seventh straight year of record food production, topping 1942 by 5 percent. We know also that in 1941–42 Americans consumed 8 percent more food per capita than in the boom years 1928–29, when total food production stood at an average of 98.5 with the 1935–39 figure as an index of 100.

The "dream" army of volunteer farm labor did materialize. There were 2,706,000 placements of agricultural labor through Government agencies alone from May through September in 1943.

Whereas planted acreage (52 crops) was 351,210,000 in 1942, it was 360,469,000 in 1943. Harvested acreage was 339,496,000 in 1942 (with the not unusual area of 11,000,000 acres going unharvested). The estimated acreage for harvest in 1943 is 346,579,000.

Abundant harvests

The winter-wheat crop was 533,857,000 bushels, which compares favorably with the 10-year (1932–41) average of 550,181,000. The spring-wheat crop was 8 percent above that of 1942 and 60 percent in excess of the 10-year average.

There were nearly 400,000,000 bushels of corn on hand October 1 and our corn supply for the coming year will be the second largest on record. It is expected to total 3.4 billion bushels. Our total feed supply is also the second largest on record, but feed supply per animal unit is lower than last year because our livestock have increased so in numbers above 1942.

Citizens in general will, in 1943–44, have about as much food per capita as they did in the 1935–39 period, with better distribution and improved knowledge about conserving food values. We produce 32 percent more food than in the average year of the 1935–39 period, including 38 percent more livestock.

Farm credit

A. G. BLACK, FCA Governor, recently told the National Agricultural Credit Committee, meeting in Chicago, that the Federal Land Banks will not let their loan values spiral upward towards inflation. He called on other mortgage leaders to help hold the line against a repetition of the land boom and crash of the 1920's.

The FCA head, who is also chairman of the committee, warned that at present the line is *not* being held. Reports on the average size of farm mortgages recorded throughout the country in the first six months of 1943 indicate that those borrowing money to buy farm land are borrowing more than for many years. Other unfavorable factors in the farm real-estate situation are the continually rising land prices and the increasing size of mortgages recorded. The greatest gain in mortgage size is in that recorded by individuals.

Farm debt declines

The most favorable factor in the situation is the continuing rapid decline in the total mortgage debt of farmers. Norman J. Wall, of BAE, estimated that the total farm mortgage debt on July 1, was about $6,145,000,000, the lowest since 1917.

The short-term farm credit situation shows some of the same trends as the long-term, but does not appear so dangerous, C. R. Arnold, FCA Production Credit Commissioner, said. Fewer farmers are using short-term credit this year than last, though those using credit to finance production are using larger amounts. Arnold said:

"Neither farmers nor lenders want a repetition of the deflation of the 1020's when billions of short-term loans had to be converted into long-term mortgages. Unless there is a radical change in the present trend, I believe we can avoid that this time."

Brief but important

Girl lookout shows courage

It takes a brave heart to enter a burning building and calmly telephone a fire report to headquarters, and when that building is perched at the top of a mountain on the edge of a jagged 150-foot cliff, the incident is worth recording. The girl, Orris Wood, 17, and her younger brother, Cy, were employed as FS lookouts during the 1943 fire season at Iron Mountain Lookout Station, Siskiyou National Forest, Oreg.

A day or two before the lookout station closed for the year, Orris noticed smoke curling from the building. As she was trained to do, she put a pack pump on her back, climbed on the roof, and put out the fire there. Then she discovered the ceiling ablaze inside the cabin. While pieces of burning ceiling fell about her, Orris telephoned the district ranger. As the building burned, it toppled from its perch and rolled down the cliff, setting fire to brush and snags. Fire-suppression crews summoned by the quick-thinking girl arrived in time to put out the fire before it spread to nearby forested areas.

Now Jake showed horse sense. Jake was a faithful skid-horse belonging to a woodsman in the Nemo District of the Black Hills National Forest, and the story comes from Barney—formally known as K. G. Helmick—an old-time forest ranger. Ranger Barney, a FS employee of many years of experience in various National Forests, has always carried on a fire-prevention campaign among lumberjacks, ranchers, and townspeople. This season the woodsman reported to Ranger Barney that Jake discovered a small smoldering fire and attracted his master's attention to it. Men in the neighborhood put it out. Helmick said Jake showed more horse sense than the person who threw away a cigarette and started what might have become a serious fire.

Attention, War Boards

The primary functions of the State and County War Boards were defined in Administrator's Memorandum No. 31, October 29, 1943. At the same time certain reassignments of functions previously given to the War Boards were made. The announced policy of WFA is to utilize personnel and facilities of existing agencies at the local level whenever possible, in order to avoid creating additional organizations, to utilize existing organizations to the maximum, and to effect economical administration of each function. For more details get a copy of this memorandum which supersedes all previous memoranda to the extent of their conflict or inconsistency therewith.

Accident prevention

The WFA Office of Labor recently established a safety program covering labor supply centers. W. C. Crozer, formerly an FSA safety officer, has been appointed safety engineer for OL and will work with regional and field personnel in developing a safety program among agricultural workers.

Because of the possibility of accidents to emergency farm workers during summer and fall, a special accident policy was worked out this year for members of the Victory Farm Volunteers and Women's Land Army. The policy, offered by 64 private insurance companies, was not limited to accidents on farms, but applied anywhere. Applications were handled through ES. Next year, BAE will collect and study reports from the companies on this new type of policy, as an aid in preventing such accidents and in determining rates.

Xmas war bonds

Many FSA employees in Region X, which includes Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana, are planning to buy war bonds and stamps this year with the money they would normally use in exchanging Christmas cards. The idea took hold in the regional office at Denver and now is spreading to the State and county offices. The employees decided: "The close working relationship in our organization is more obvious proof of good feeling and comradeship between us than the exchange of holiday greetings. We will buy war bonds and stamps instead."

IMPERATIVE *need for more contoured or terraced farm land to insure greater war food production has induced farm women in many parts of the country to train for running contour lines. Here Mrs. Luther Black, "transitman," and Mrs. Guy Everett, "rodman," of Webster County, Ga., run lines for water-retaining terraces on a farm in the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil Conservation District, Ga. After completing a course under an SCS technician, the two women surveyed 480,000 feet of contour lines in record time last spring so the land could be put to efficient use for cropping in 1943.*

For employees

The *USDA* editor has a limited number of mimeographed copies of Structure, Functions, and Origins of the Department of Agriculture and its Constituent Agencies, (November 8); and Abridged Chronology of Agriculture's Part in the War (October 15).

Just off the press is a revision of Farm Bookkeeping and the Federal Income Tax. This pamphlet answers such questions as "What information must I have about my business in order to file a correct income tax return?" Issued by BAE and ES, it is being distributed primarily by ES.

William A. Hooker, associated with the Department for nearly 40 years, retired October 31. Since 1908 he had been in OES, in charge of abstracting in economic zoology for the Experiment Station Record. Dr. Hooker has prepared fully 20,000 technical abstracts, besides many articles.

The first ES Latin American fellowship program starts in December. Sponsored by the Interdepartmental Committee on Cooperation with the other American Republics, and the State Department, the ES program offers fellowships to one man and one woman from each of the following: Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Peru, and to one man from Nicaragua.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

USDA December 11, 1943

Editorial pilgrimage

As threatened in *USDA*, October 2, the editor began a series of field visitations on November 7, incidental to other official business, returning to base the 22d. The trip was expertly planned by itinerary wizards in Personnel, since it involved USDA clubs at various points and two or three scientific laboratories.

Adopting a penitential mien appropriate to funerals, the traveler approached the FSA in its somewhat barren Cincinnati offices with some trepidation. But after Forest Morgan and others took him in hand, he soon discovered a lively, democratic, idealistic personnel, oozing morale at every pore and claiming the lowest turnover of any Department agency during the past year. A "grass roots" conference was called, at which every level of worker was represented, and a lively session resulted.

The next stop was Chicago, where FDA's Frank E. Blood took the editor in hand. An unusually large luncheon meeting of the local USDA club was addressed and there were other visitations with individuals. At Urbana, Jackson L. Cartter put the Regional Soybean Laboratory (*USDA*, November 13) on display, and Dr. D. M. Hall, ES, and others arranged an evening meeting of the town's vigorous USDA club in the Student Union Building of the university.

The laboratories

At Peoria the Northern Regional Research Laboratory, and at Madison the Forest Products Laboratory, occupied the editor's somewhat excited attention, with Harry E. Roethe, technical assistant to the director, arranging his visit to the former, and W. W. Weber, acting in charge of information and education, that to the latter. It would take more pages than a single issue carries to detail the findings in either laboratory, but something will be said about them in future as space permits. In Madison, the editor also talked with Andy Hopkins and Bill Sumner, ES, and spoke to the University of Wisconsin agricultural journalism students.

The twin City USDA Club, representing Minneapolis and St. Paul, held a well-attended luncheon session in the Midway section, William L. Cavert, of FCA, presiding. Paul C. Johnson and H. L. Harris, of ES, were also visited.

At Kansas City, Elbert W. Smith, of FCA, showed the editor the sights, and the USDA club met with him in FCA's conference room. The democratic set-up of FCA, pressed as it is into the former exhibition space of KC's famous Municipal Auditorium, and the verve and intelligence of Personnel Officer Smith, were particularly impressive.

The trip wound up in St. Louis where Allyn Walters and Percy Sachs, REA, made the visit pleasant and rewarding. REA, too, has plenty of pep. Dr. O. W. Seher, FDA, presided at a luncheon meeting of the town's USDA Club. As usual the editor made a talk and escaped unscathed.

In general

A few general observations: People in the field have a lively interest in the history of the Department and especially in its present administrative set-up and relations with WFA. Other topics regarding which they want more information are post-war planning, forecasts of the Department's status two or three years from now, administrative procedures and techniques, relationships between various agencies, and also programs, policies, commodities, and general functioning.

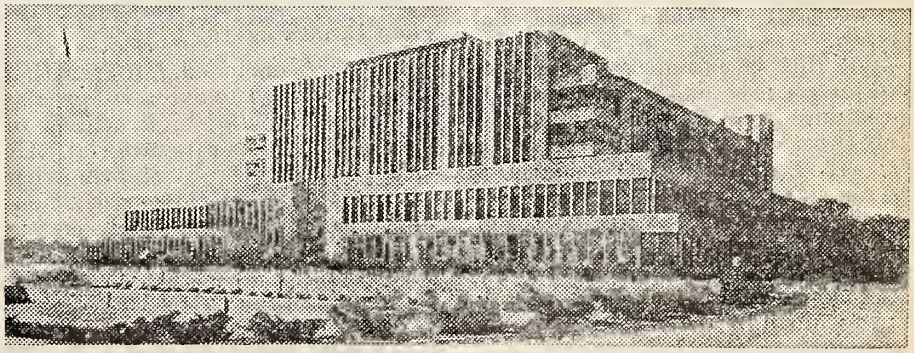
Some units that have moved out of Washington feel vulnerable, isolated, and neglected, and could do with more friendly attention from headquarters. There is considerable tendency on the part of many workers to feel that the Department is no longer a unified whole, and to regard their ties to it as rather tenuous.

USDA

When it comes to *USDA* itself, there is perhaps too much tendency for workers to seek in it only something which concerns people they know, or their own unit, and to complain that too much space is devoted to other units of no concern to them. They were asked to broaden their interests and to learn how all our activities are related.

Distribution of *USDA* was somewhat spotty. Some units were getting fewer copies than the "1 to 3 employees" rule permits and doing nothing to secure more; in some, little effort was made to get the house organ distributed widely.

Spontaneous comment in general agreed that *USDA* was improving, becoming more readable, and more helpful. Reaction was also favorable to making it what it was originally designed to be, an over-all Department information house organ. However, many commented that there was now too little space in *USDA* to do anything like a satisfactory job.



Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis.

The trip was mentally refreshing and provided invaluable background. The folks were all very cordial and hospitable. A little conservation revealed that each one of them was just a doggone fine person you would be glad to have as a friend. We hope that more details can be given later, especially about the laboratories—without revealing military secrets, of course.

"Emotional security"

Rensis Likert, head of BAE Division of Program Surveys, speaking at a luncheon in the Department the other day, observed that the newer supervisor-subordinate relationship revolves around mutual participation in tasks fully understood by both, and attacked good-humoredly, rather than around the supervisor's "You do this, or else." He especially stressed the very important thing he called "emotional security"; and that works two ways—it affects the boss quite as much as it does the underling.

Various scientific studies made in recent years have shown that worker output is affected far more by emotional than by physical factors. Workers in the very best surroundings produce poorly if their emotional relationship to their superiors is bad. On the other hand, those working under handicaps in their physical environment often produce phenomenally well if employer-employee relationships are good.

Certain girls doing delicate work winding armatures, and so forth, had a very high rate of output even when the light provided approached the low intensity of moonlight. This not only goes to show what some girls can do in the moonlight, but it also proves that perfect lighting, ventilation, and other conditions affecting the physical environment have far less effect on work capacity than the emotional set-up.

All this is extremely important. Nothing can be more devastating to procedure in office or factory than for the superior or the subordinate to have the constant fear that somebody is about to blow up in their faces. Tempestuous storms of temperament are bad enough in movie stars and opera singers, if these much maligned folk have them, but they are in intolerable waste in wartime in any office or factory.

Conniving bureaucrat?

Early in this century a quiet, gentle-mannered fellow from Maine named L. A. Rogers (see cut) began the study of butter-making methods in what was then BAI's Dairy Division. For BAI Chief Salmon, in his annual report dated June 30, 1894, said that the dairy industry required study and suggested that a dairy expert at $2,500 a year, with two clerks, could do what was required.

The Dairy Division was established July 1, 1895, with a chief, an assistant, and two clerks. It originally collected and disseminated information about the Nation's dairy industry. But passage of the act to regulate "renovated" butter, on May 9, 1902, gave the division new duties, and laboratory research rapidly got under way.

At that time butter was made by ripening cream, the high acidity of such cream being supposed to contribute to the keeping quality of the butter. Yet 75 percent of the stored butter of the day developed a very objectionable fishy flavor and odor which reduced its value several cents a pound. These flavors were attributed to bacterial action in the butter during storage.

Then came Rogers

Dr. Rogers concluded, however, that they were due to an oxidative process accelerated by the high acidity of the cream used as raw material. He solved the problem by showing that butter made from pasteurized, non-acid cream had exceptional keeping qualities. He thus revolutionized butter making the world over, though not right away.

For there was plenty of opposition. His results were ridiculed. He was caricatured over the caption, "Not so fast, Dr. Rogers." But the United States Navy, which then as now needed butter that would keep, let him prepare large quantities of butter for it. It kept well and general adoption of the Rogers' process followed.

Rogers, being a laboratory and later a division chief, was naturally an administrative bureaucrat. But this piece of research alone is worth, at a very conservative estimate, 5 million dollars annually to the butter industry. Besides, we still had Dr. Rogers and the Dairy Division which, years later, became a bureau.

Other achievements

Rogers was catalytic in the work of S. Henry Ayres and his associates in fundamental work on milk pasteurization carried on in the Dairy Division. The same thing is true of W. Mansfield Clark's important work on the hydrogen ions. Rogers helped devise a successful method for making lactic acid by fermentation of milk sugar in cheese and casein whey. In 1932 he devised a method of ripening cheese in sealed cans sold, as such, to consumers. A one-way valve permits the ripening gases to escape without entrance of air into the cans.

Indeed, he may be said to have inspired most of the important and valuable research performed by the BDI dairy-research laboratories. He retired in 1942, after 40 years of Government service, and is now looking after his interests in a dairy in Maine.

If what is written here were mentioned to him, he would act half-embarassed and then say, "Yes, that's all true in the main, but I don't see any sense at all to bringing it up." That's the kind of fellow this bureaucrat was and is. But he proved to be a grand investment for the American public even in strict monetary terms.

A committee has been named to develop a plan for honor awards to Department employees. It will consider plans for recognition of employees who have distinguished themselves in the Department's service, have served long and faithfully, or for other reasons deserve recognition. The committee is authorized to ask for suggestions and assistance from sources within or without the Department. Paul H. Appleby, Under Secretary, is chairman.

Higher-analysis fertilizer pays

WFA is urging farmers to buy higher-analysis fertilizer. Though higher-analysis fertilizers cost more per 100 pounds than those with lower plant-food content, the cost per pound of plant food is lower.

For example, in North Carolina, a ton of higher-analysis fertilizer in 100-pound bags costs about $34.90, but contains 20 pounds of plant food (nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash). A ton of low-analysis fertilizer costs around $30.40, but contains only 16 pounds of plant food. Figured on the basis of plant-food content, it takes 2,500 pounds of a low-analysis fertilizer to provide the amount of plant food contained in a ton of higher-analysis fertilizer. The cost of 2,500 pounds of the lower-analysis is about $38. Comparing this cost to the $34.90 for a ton of higher analysis, the farmer who buys the latter saves $3.10.

W. H. Ross, A. L. Mehring, and A. R. Merz, of the Department, campaigned for many years for the use of higher-analysis fertilizers, first in the old Bureau of Soils, then in the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, and finally in BPISAE. There was much opposition to overcome, because many believed that strong fertilizer would burn up the plants. New methods of placement overcame this possible risk. Education convinced growers of their error.

Wartime use of higher-analysis fertilizers not only saves farmers money, but also effects notable savings in containers and in transportation space and costs.

Victory pigs for bonds

Farmers don't always have ready cash to put into war bonds, so farm people in Coffee County, Ga., bought bonds this year through "victory pig sales." G. R. Miller, FCA employee in Columbia, S. C., says it works like this: To become a member of the Victory Pig Club, each person pledges to fatten and sell at least one pig (or calf), the proceeds from which are to go into bonds or stamps. The first Coffee County victory pig sale brought in $28,000; the second, over $69,000. All this went for bonds. The Douglas (Ga.) Production Credit Association, local businessmen, and farmers backed the sales, and the county livestock market handled them free.

Aerial photography

The arts of peace constantly serve the purposes of war. When, back in 1926, the Forest Service began to utilize vertical aerial photographs of areas in Montana to help make maps of its National Forests, December 7, 1941, was a long way in the future. By 1934, when the FS inaugurated its large land-acquisition program, Department aerial photography really came into its own.

The use of such photographs in field operations revolutionized surveying practice. They vastly facilitated the determination of property boundaries and forest cover, and cost far less than ground-survey methods. Next, the photographs were being used by SCS to check on its soil and erosion-control projects, as well as in AAA crop-compliance surveys. Hitherto insoluble problems were solved.

Extent and cost

In taking the photographs, an airplane—carrying a pilot, a photographer, and an aerial camera suspended with its lens pointed vertically downward through a hole in the plane's bottom—flies at a predetermined elevation above the ground. Separate overlapping photographs are taken at regular intervals, depending on the speed and height of the plane. Enlargements are then made.

Between 1926 and the middle of 1943, the Department obtained complete aerial photographic coverage of two-thirds of the continental area of the United States at a cost of $3 per square mile.

War use

Naturally such material would have immense value to the enemy. Hence due precautionary measures have been taken in cooperation with the Military Intelligence Service of the General Staff. Such photographs can now be obtained from Department agencies only when essential to the war effort and their release is approved by the War Department. Advance possession of these photographs has prevented many delays that would have occurred had the Army had to initiate aerial photographic operations to obtain them.

Today aerial photography plays a vital part in warfare for the study of enemy terrain, the detection of troop movements, camouflage, the effects of bomb damage, and so on. Members of the War Department's General Staff have highly commended the Department's aerial photographic material, which has been found most useful for strategic mapping purposes.

BEPQ, insects, and disease

Our armed forces are in less danger from insect-borne diseases in this war than in past ones, as a result of special research by Department entomologists. At the request of the Army, they set to work last year with funds provided by the Committee on Medical Research of the Office of Scientific Research and Development. They discovered that methyl bromide, used against insects that attack food, is also effective aginst body lice, which spread typhus. Then they developed a portable fumigation cabinet, which is cheap and easy to transport, even by plane. So the Army uses this cabinet instead of the big steam sterilizer used in the First World War.

The same delousing method is applied to an individual fumigation bag for the soldier on combat duty. He puts his clothing in the airtight bag, lets in the fumigant from a small vial, and presto, the cooties die. More recently, the entomologists developed a powder that kills lice, and each soldier in a combat area carries a can of it in his kit.

Danger to our troops from malaria and yellow fever, mosquito-borne diseases, also has been lessened, thanks to a mosquito repellent worked out by the entomologists. Included in kits for troops fighting in mosquito-infested areas, it may be applied as a liquid or mixed with camouflage cream.

To study Mediterranean cork

In collaboration with a cork company, FS is sending W. P. Stockwell, of the California Forest Experiment Station, to the Mediterranean area to collect several tons of selected cork-oak seed and to study the growing and harvesting of cork in its native habitat. The mission looks to further experimentation with cork oak as a possible future crop in this country. Some earlier plantings in California and in the Southeast furnish evidence that cork oak can be grown successfully in the United States.

Brief but important

Compressed foods

Under a recently announced WFA food-compression program, the bulk of some dehydrated foods exported for war needs will be reduced 20 to 80 percent. Compressed foods save valuable cargo space by air, land, and ocean. They are more easily handled in combat areas which lack adequate unloading facilities, warehouses, roads, and railroads. Small packages of compressed dehydrated foods may be carried in motor vehicles, on pack animals, or by men.

During the past year, the food industry developed successful methods of compressing several foods, principally beets, onions, and carrots, for the Army. The WFA program will help food processors to get compression machinery. FDA has let contracts for millions of pounds of compressed soya soups flavored with cheese and peas. The WFA program, now applied to vegetable and soya soups, may be extended later to other foods. ARA is testing various products to see if they are adapted to compression.

Wartime dividends

A fine example of how peacetime foresight brought wartime dividends comes in from Richard L. Brooks, FSA supervisor in Alachua County, Fla. Between 1938 and 1942, under provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, some 3,700 acres of productive farm land were purchased by 28 borrowers in this county. This land was fenced, equipped with suitable barns, outbuildings, wells, machinery, and homes before wartime shortages of critical materials intervened.

Then came the calls for increased production. These farms and farmers were ready. They have had 85 tons of peanuts staked out and being threshed. Besides corn and peanuts for feed, they plant oats, millet, and chufas. They are sending 1,565 head of hogs to market this fall and early winter. With pressure cookers bought at the time of their first loan, they canned nearly 11,000 quarts of food this year, an average of 388 for each family. They raised 3,350 chicks and produced about 10,600 dozen eggs for home and market. Each family has an acre of garden, ¼ acre of Irish potatoes, and 3 acres of peas.

For the second year the OBF Administrative Unit is preparing a large office Christmas card, through which employees will greet their coworkers instead of sending individual cards through the mail. This wartime suggestion would help thousands of overworked people in post offices and stores if all Department employees follow it. Another idea is to give war bonds and stamps instead of presents and greetings.

For employees

A new handbook for employees in both Washington and the field, prepared by the Office of Personnel and published by the Office of Information, is available through bureau personnel offices. Because of the paper shortage, the edition is limited, but the supply allows for reference copies in each office unit as well as special copies for newcomers.

The handbook explains leave, job descriptions, efficiency ratings, pay, tax deductions, retirement, and similar items, and includes lists, guides, and a brief background statement on the Department. Suggestions for the use, revision, and reprintings of the handbook are welcome. Send them to Division of Training, Office of Personnel, Washington 25.

Under a new WFA order, farmers may slaughter hogs on farms, without a license or slaughter permit, during the 90-day period November 17, 1943, to February 17, 1944. The order applies only to hogs and only during the period specified, and does not remove other restrictions. Farmers must still collect ration stamps for all meat sold; charge no more than ceiling prices; observe grading requirements for meat other than pork; register as sellers and get permits for slaughter of animals other than hogs; and send ration stamps each month to war price and rationing boards.

The editor of USDA has a limited number of the new organization charts, of the mimeographed list of top USDA and WFA officials, and of the mimeograph on the Structure, Functions, and Origins of the USDA and Constituent Agencies, for distribution to those who ask for them.

It's not charity

Families buying farms under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act have repaid on their loans *26 percent more* than the proportion necessary to pay out in full over the 40-year period. Heavily increased payments out of 1942 income, from which the FSA collected the equivalent of a year and a half's installments, were largely responsible. These payments "ahead of schedule" are the result of a variable payment plan followed by 77 percent of the borrowers, under which families are billed for larger than average amounts in good crop years.

Including the larger amounts billed, borrowers had repaid to the tune of 98.4 percent as of June 30. In addition, FSA had collected $5,995,431 in extra payments, including refunds on loans and payments made from other than normal farm income, such as sale of mineral rights, timber, etc.

Corncobs, peanut shells, and similar waste farm products, treated by a process worked out at the BAIC Northern Region Research Laboratory, make good material for cleaning and polishing machine parts. The farm wastes, which are first ground and screened, are useful for cleaning war machinery as well as farm equipment. Another wartime development of this laboratory is Norelac, a new film-forming resin for containers for food, chemicals, machine parts, and other products which need moisture-proof packages. Norelac—named for the first two letters of NOrthern and REgional and the first three of LACquer—can be made from any vegetable oil rich in linoleic acid.

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USDA December 25, 1943

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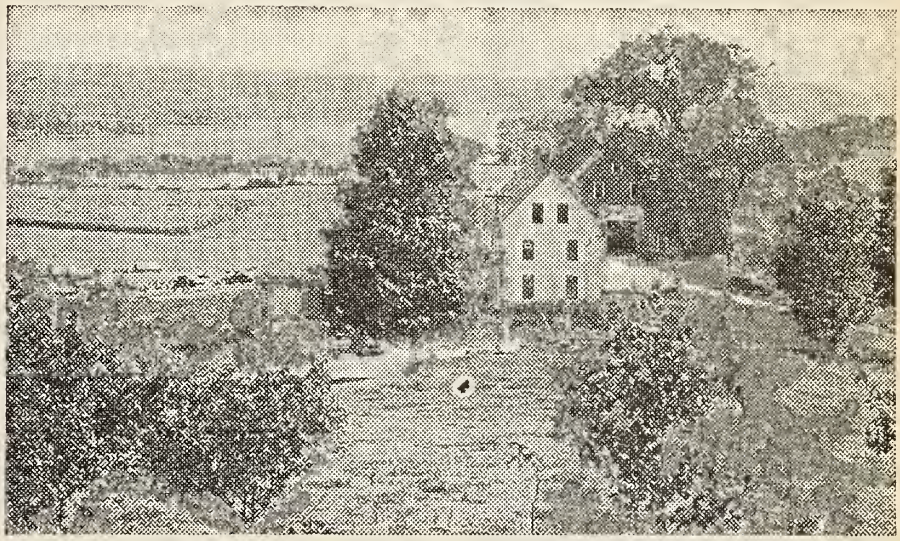
Post-war planning

During a recent swing around the North Central States, your editor was often queried about post-war planning. Some wanted to know whether post-war planning could be talked about now. Some, what kind of planning the Department was doing. And some were mainly interested in what was likely to happen to their own jobs after the war.

Well, post-war planning can and should be discussed. In fact Raymond C. Smith, chairman of the Interbureau Committee on Post-War Planning, says it's a big mistake not to talk about it. Speaking at the meeting of the Land-Grant College Association in Chicago, on October 27, Secretary Wickard said we must plan now, and quickly, to prevent our fighting men from coming back to unemployment, undernourishment, depression, and misery. Get the speech (Press Service) and read it.

Secondly, Department-wide post-war planning is now under way at full steam. It involves every bureau and agency, the land-grant colleges, and all Federal, regional, State, and local units. The plans involve useful public works and other specific projects designed to provide employment in the transition period, supplementing what private enterprise does.



CERTAINLY *out of the experience we have gained in the last two decades we, in agriculture, should be able to fashion the kind of program that would, even though no other decisions are made, prevent the misery and suffering and the unhappiness which stalked the rural areas after the last war. That, it seems to me, is the very minimun that we can do in the way of post-war planning.*—Secretary Wickard.

What, where, and why

There are nine regional post-war planning committees. Regions and chairmen are:

South Central—E. R. Henson, BAE, 614 New Donaghey Bldg., Little Rock, Ark.; *Great Plains*—Elmer Starch, BAE, Rudge & Gunnzel Bldg., Lincoln, Nebr.; *California, Nevada*—S. B. Show, FS, Phelan Bldg., San Francisco; *Northeast*—W. S. Middaugh, BAE, 217 Center Bldg., Upper Darby, Pa.; *Appalachian*—R. E. McArdle, FS, P. O. Box 252, Asheville, N. C.; *Southeast*—T. S. Buie, SCS, Spartanburg, S. C.; *North Central*—G. E. Young, BAE, 623 No. Second St., Milwaukee, Wis.; *Pacific Northwest*—W. B. Wyckoff, FS, U. S. Court House, Portland Oreg.; *Southwest Intermountain*—Cyril Luker, SCS, Box 348, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

They are now engaged in a 90-day State-by-State inventory of agriculture's peace needs. The State reports are due in Washington February 29, 1944. Later regional reports, to be based on the State reports, will deal with the following subjects:

Conservation and development of natural resources such as crop, pasture, forest, and range lands; rural population in relation to resources and to the needs of returned soldiers; farm family living, including housing, communications, and roads; farm organization, including farm size, production adjustment, and the utilization of Government-released land; community services like electrification and co-ops; marketing, processing, and transportation facilities; social security for farm people; the cooperation of agriculture, labor, industrial management, and government.

Department interbureau post-war planning groups are working in each subject-matter field, under the direction of 10 activity leaders:

Mordecai Ezekiel, Sec. Off., agricultural and industrial relations, industry in rural areas; C. W. Warburton, FCA, farm credit; H. A. Vogel, BAE, education, information, special services; M. D. Harris, BAE, land tenure; C. C. Taylor, BAE, social security; F. F. Elliott, BAE, agricultural situation; S. E. Johnson, BAE, production adjustment; F. V. Waugh, FDA, marketing, distribution; G. E. Farrell, BAE, military lands; V. W. Johnson, BAE, land settlement opportunities.

These groups issue reports from time to time. Read:

Agriculture When the War Ends (BAE); Post-War Plans No. 3 (revised)—Maintaining Demand for Farm Products (OI); and Wartime Family Living, Annual Outlook Issue, Autumn 1943 (BHNHE).

Your part in planning

This work has been undertaken, as Secretary Wickard said, to enable us "to avoid the evils which plagued our post-war farm life for two decades

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after the first World War. . . . The time is short, not because the end of the war is necessarily near at hand, but because the American people—including our farm people—face some of the most important decisions of their lifetime in the immediate months ahead."

Every community will be expected to help in this program. The Department is committed to consider all proposals received from local groups. You and others in your community should apply to the regional chairmen and the Washington activity leaders for information, read all reports issued, participate in local discussions, encourage local discussion of national problems, and prepare to increase your own efficiency in performing whatever post-war job you may have.

Your job

This brings us to your job. Robert L. Hill, chairman of the Committee on Problems of Post-War Personnel Administration, and assistant to the Director of Personnel, feels that the post-war projects being planned will require the use of much technically trained personnel, administrators, and laborers. The former two will be drawn from the Department, and will include returning war veterans who were formerly employees; the labor will be recruited locally.

On the other hand, some activities will obviously be curtailed. Many will no longer be necessary. These will most likely concern many functions of the War Boards, lend-lease, price control and rationing—but gradually, and, in part, also those emergency agencies such as now deal with war shortages of materials and facilities, transportation, and farm labor. That is the picture as it is seen here. Any more questions? If so, send them in, and we shall do our best to find the answers.

The editor of USDA *can supply on request a limited number of mimeographs entitled "Abridged Chronology of Agriculture's Part in the War." This is a simple chronological list beginning in May 1940 and giving, very briefly, the most important changes in function in and actions taken by USDA and WFA in the war effort. In a sense it is an extension of the date list given in* USDA *of October 16.*

USDA Clubs

All field employees of the Department are eligible for membership in USDA Clubs. To join they pay nominal annual dues. The clubs elect officers and then have regular luncheon or evening meetings when convenient.

The first USDA Clubs came into being over 20 years ago. They grew out of a need felt by Secretary Edwin T. Meredith to bring field employees into closer working relationships. Some of these early clubs have continued active throughout the years.

In 1939 the Office of Personnel assisted in revitalizing the program. At present there are 76 USDA Clubs, operating to meet local needs and serviced by the OP Division of Training. Longer working hours, gas rationing, and civilian-defense participation have in some instances curtailed club activities, but on the whole the war has accelerated the over-all program.

War activities

First-aid courses, blood donor campaigns, war-bond purchases, etc. have been actively promoted by the clubs. Through appointment of committees, many clubs have brought to employees educational and welfare facilities they would not otherwise have had. Perhaps of greatest importance, personal acquaintance has frequently brought to light opportunities for cooperation among agencies, with the result that our wartime contributions have been made more effective.

Clubs are also on the alert to schedule outstanding local speakers, and many worthwhile meetings have brought to employees renewed enthusiasm to better perform their daily work. During the fall, Secretary Wickard, Solicitor Shields, Economic Adviser Ezekiel, and Director of Personnel Reid were among those meeting with field employees through the USDA Clubs.

Visiting officials report that the USDA Clubs are an ideal medium for securing a cross-section view of the Department's program in the field, where the end results of our efforts take effect. They also enable visiting dignitaries as well as lesser fry quickly and easily to contact representatives of various agencies spread wide in many cities.

Farewell, cattle tick

The cattle tick, says BAI, is on the way out. That marks the approaching end of a succession of events that began back in 1884. For in that year a shy, diffident, young graduate physician, with the not uncommon name of Smith, was placed in charge of BAI's animal-disease investigations by its chief, the distinguished veterinary scientist, D. E. Salmon.

At that time a dread disease called cattle fever, thought to have entered this country from Mexico or the West Indies, seemed destined to hamper the raising of cattle in our Southern States. The plague was first reported 250 years ago from Lancaster County, Pa., however. It had broken out among native Pennsylvania cattle pastured on land where some North Carolina cattle had previously been penned.

Right after the war between the States, cattle from the South in apparent good health spread a trail of the devastating fever whenever they were driven North and mingled with northern cattle. All medication had been found useless. No effective control measures had been formulated. Some cattlemen believed that cattle ticks had something to do with spreading the disease, but that was mere speculation. Losses amounted to $50,000,000 a year.

What little bug?

Cooper Curtice and F. L. Kilborne, of BAI, were already working on this disease when Theobald Smith joined them. The former had unraveled the biology and life habits of the tick and the latter had convinced himself that it spread cattle fever. But physician Smith was just a little distrustful of current theories and insisted on proof, as he believed that some bacterium caused cattle fever.

Smith's laboratory studies soon disclosed that the red blood corpuscles of animals attacked by the fever were destroyed. He next found a peculiar microorganism, a protozoa (a single-celled animal reproducing by fission), not a bacterium, in these red blood corpuscles. Still he was reluctant to accept his colleague's theory of distribution by ticks, though Kilborne appeared to have proved that if cattle ticks were not present the fever vanished.

So Smith carefully planned a wonderful series of crucial experiments. The results were astounding. For they showed, for the first time in medical history, that an insect could act as intermediary host in transmitting a protozoan disease from one animal to another. So Smith had to admit the truth of a theory he at first thought fantastic.

Success!

This was perhaps the most outstanding medical discovery ever made by USDA scientists. The knowledge that infective agents could attack animals via an intermediary host, suspected before but now fully proved, aided in solving the mystery of how fifty or more other diseases affecting men and animals were transmitted—malaria, African sleeping sickness, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, yellow fever, nagana, and tularemia among them.

Indeed we can say that the Panama Canal might not have been dug by Americans but for this discovery. For it was malaria-spreading mosquitoes, not lack of technical skill and dogged industry, which prevented the French from finishing that job. The results of this remarkable scientific work appear in BAI's Bulletin No. 1, issued in 1893.

It was Dr. Salmon who undertook the necessary program of tick control. Riding horseback over the Carolina and Virginia mountains, he personally helped to establish the first quarantine line separating tick-infested from noninfested regions. Enforcement of the quarantine helped stop spread of tick fever to the North, but the South still suffered staggering losses. Then an arsenical bath or dip was devised, which, properly used, could rid an entire county of cattle ticks within a year.

Pistol-packing cynics

There were cynics and skeptics, of course, some of them armed with shotguns. When the tick-eradication campaign began in 1906, nearly a thousand counties in 15 Southern and Southwestern States were quarantined. But not all farmers wanted to dip their livestock by any means. Some said you could never eradicate all those billion of ticks and the whole idea was silly anyway.

So these rugged individuals blew up community dipping vats with dynamite, shot three inspectors in cold blood, threatened others, and otherwise tried to stop the work. But Department and State veterinary officials were certain that ticks could be eradicated and they gradually succeeded in whittling down the quarantined area.

During the past year 4,350 more square miles were reclaimed from the ticks and the fever they transmit. The only quarantined area now is a strip along our side of the Rio Grande, which inspectors patrol to prevent ticky cattle from wandering over into this country of their own volition or with smuggler aid. Of the 985 counties infested with ticks in 1906, all but parts of 8 are now free from the parasite.

Science pays dividends

The total cost of this clean-up job has been about $50,000,000—just about the loss sustained *per year* by livestock growers when cattle ticks flourished unannoyed. Continued vigilance and strict enforcement of regulations should wholly protect our livestock from this plague in future.

Kudzu Club

The past few weeks, H. H. Bennett, SCS Chief, has been proudly displaying his certification of honorary membership in one of the most progressive and exclusive clubs in America—the Kudzu Club of Georgia. "With the biggest imaginable objectives, they don't even ask for a flat dime," remarked Dr. Bennett as he read the rules and regulations of this unique club with the lowest dues on record—no dues at all—and discovered that his only obligation as a member is that he will "help some neighbor to get started with kudzu."

The Kudzu Club of Georgia now has 600 members, all enthusiastic growers of the luxuriant hay-producing, erosion-controlling, soil-building "porch vine" of the South. The club is "out for 3,000 members . . . and for 1,000,000 acres of Georgia land wrapped up in kudzu."

For a good many years now, Dr. Bennett has been preaching kudzu as a healer par excellence for badly eroded land in the South. Millions of cotton-land gullies have been covered, filled in, and smoothed over by this cheerful and powerfully protective vine of the Southeast. There are now 350,000 acres of kudzu east of the Mississippi—forage for dairy cattle and friend to the land.

Veterinarian—bureaucrat

Forty-one years in one division should make you eligible to be a bureaucrat. So Edward C. Joss, FDA veterinarian (see cut), is a bureaucrat, a very live one, who retires January 1, 1944. From 1902, when he entered the meat-inspection service, to 1944 is a long time—time enough for pioneering and development and results.

Around 1880 foreign markets were questioning our meat, justly or unjustly—alleging the presence of pleuropneumonia lesions and trichinae in American beef and pork. One by one they dropped us off their list as far as the importation of beef and pork was concerned.

Then agitation of the packers who wanted to regain their export outlets resulted in passage of three bills in the nineties. These provided for ante and post mortem inspection of animals slaughtered for export and for the maintenance of export certification. American meat again began to move into foreign markets.

The Jungle

The real reform, however, awaited the next century. Upton Sinclair exposed such shocking details in his novel, The Jungle, that President Theodore Roosevelt was aroused and Congress passed the Meat Inspection Act of 1906. The new law gave the Department much increased authority over sanitation in packing plants, and provided for inspection and su-

pervision of the processing, preparation, and labeling of meat and its products intended for interstate and foreign trade.

By this time Dr. Joss had entered the Department. From that December day in 1902 till the present he has been talking with packers, and going back and talking with them some more. Talking mostly about sanitation, and making the packers listen.

Then came washbowls

The story of how BAI won the packers over to sanitary conditions is not an overnight affair. It was a slow process from questionable water supplies and many old wooden packing houses to the modern-type establishments with good equipment, toilet facilities, and laundries—and even landscaping, if you please. There was plenty of pooh-poohing, but it happened, and in the end the packers were as pleased as the bureau. And Dr. Joss was more pleased than anybody.

In 1913 Congress wrote a paragraph in the Tariff Act concerning restrictions on meat coming into this country. Joss was sent to New Zealand and Australia to get a line-up on the character and effectiveness of meat-inspection systems in those countries. The only credentials he carried with him were from Secretary of Agriculture Houston and the Secretary of State. He traveled 6,600 miles on his circuit of the "meat works," observing methods and procedures of inspection and of livestock handling.

Reindeer for Santa

The summer of 1914 found Congress toying with the notion of applying the meat-inspection laws to reindeer. Joss was detailed to Alaska at the behest of the Interior Department. His conclusion was that the reindeer-meat idea was impractical. The animals were scarce and roving, transportation poor, and the reindeer only knew how to eat reindeer moss. So Donner and Blitzen can still be Claus's sprightly helpers and spend the rest of the time nibbling moss.

What did come out of this Alaskan jaunt was the isolation of the tapeworm (unknown to the Western Hemisphere) which Joss discovered in cysts on the reindeer meat and identified as *Taenia krabbei*. It had followed the reindeer from Norway and Siberia.

In Dr. Joss we have a bureaucrat who belies the smear associations of that label. He was not just a traveling inspector, urging porcelain washbowls in and thrilling to the landscaping of packinghouses; nor just a division chief chained to administrative duties. He knew livestock and lived it, was courteous, firm, and fair, and earned the respect of the packing industry. He was a scientist, equipped with vision, integrity, and curiosity—the sort of bureaucrat we honor.

Brief but important

Christmas ersatz?

In case you have already eaten your Xmas dinner, this won't interest you, for then you won't care. Anyhow your table should not groan under much ersatz because the customary Xmas "goodies" are in quite good supply. While Thanksgiving turkeys were somewhat rare in some regions, Xmas turkeys should be in good supply. The fresh cranberry situation looks good, due to release by the Army of 10 million pounds it had purchased for dehydrating; canned cranberry sauce will be a vanished memory.

A new poultry dressing spiced with five or six of the stock spices will be in the market to make up for some lack of sage, thyme, etc. Onions will be a past remembered fragrance, mincemeat 80 percent normal, pumpkins plentiful if transportation difficulties do not intervene, nut crop above average, candy—hard types scarce but over-all supply adequate, more raisins than last year, figs normal, but only domestic dates, a fourth of our usual import-augmented supply, will be available.

Unsolicited correspondence

Mrs. Blanch W. Northwood, Office of the Solicitor, St. Louis, comments on the article, Aside to the Ambitious, in October 30 *USDA:*

Working 365 days a year . . . doesn't strike me as the way to win advancement . . . Where workers are needed 365 days in a year, a system should be devised whereby all the employees take turns at remaining on the job Sundays and holidays the year round. In that way, everyone will have the same opportunity of familiarizing himself with the whole work picture . . . No one person will need to be an overworked drudge.

Messenger to chief

Recently the Washington Star, in its column, Seniors in U.S. Service, brought to light the fact that a Department employee, Francis J. P. Cleary, occupies one of the top rungs on the Federal ladder of years in service. Mr. Cleary has been with the Department for 51 years.

Although he began working for the Department as a messenger in the pre-plastic, pre-vitamin era of 1892, when soya was a sauce and not the steering wheel of your automobile, Mr. Cleary has kept pace with the rapid growth of the Department, as his present duties attest. Today finds him in the thick of the Food Fights for Freedom campaign. As chief of the OI Distribution Section, he is instrumental in getting vital information on production goals, good nutrition, and conservation into the proper channels. Perhaps you were one of the many thousands who wrote to his office last year for a copy of the Department's Victory Garden publication.

Billy (W. E.) Taylor, BPISAE, is only one year behind Mr. Cleary. Mr. Taylor entered the Weather Bureau (then in the Department) as a messenger in 1893, so has had 50 years of service. For the past 48 years he has been chief clerk of BPISAE. A very unusual feature of his record is that during the 50 years he has not taken a single day of sick leave.

The London Economist for September 18 congratulates the British Ministry of Agriculture upon issuance of a booklet on farm bookkeeping, and remarks this may enable farmers, who have long lagged behind other industries and trades in this matter, to catch up on their accounts. The Department of Inland Revenue assisted in preparing the booklet.

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